

V.F.W.

MAGAZINE

JANUARY • 1962

Happy New Year

1962



THE VAVS!
(Voluntary Service)

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Use the convenient form below to
sign up a veteran in the . . .



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and deprive us of our own way of life.

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and security of our country.



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BECAUSE the social activities sponsored by V.F.W. Posts give their families the chance to mingle with old friends and make new ones.

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BECAUSE of the knowledge that they are giving strength to the V.F.W. in its efforts to alert the American people against the evils of communism.

BECAUSE V.F.W. Magazine keeps them constantly informed on all matters pertaining to their status as veterans—and on those subjects that are close to their hearts as patriotic Americans.

For further inquiry as to regular or life membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars, write: Membership Department, V.F.W. National Headquarters, Broadway at 34th Street, Kansas City 11, Missouri.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

I hereby apply for membership in the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the U.S.

Residence Address _____

Enlistment _____ Place _____ Date _____

Discharge _____ Place _____ Date _____

I have ☐ have not ☐ been a member of the V.F.W. _____

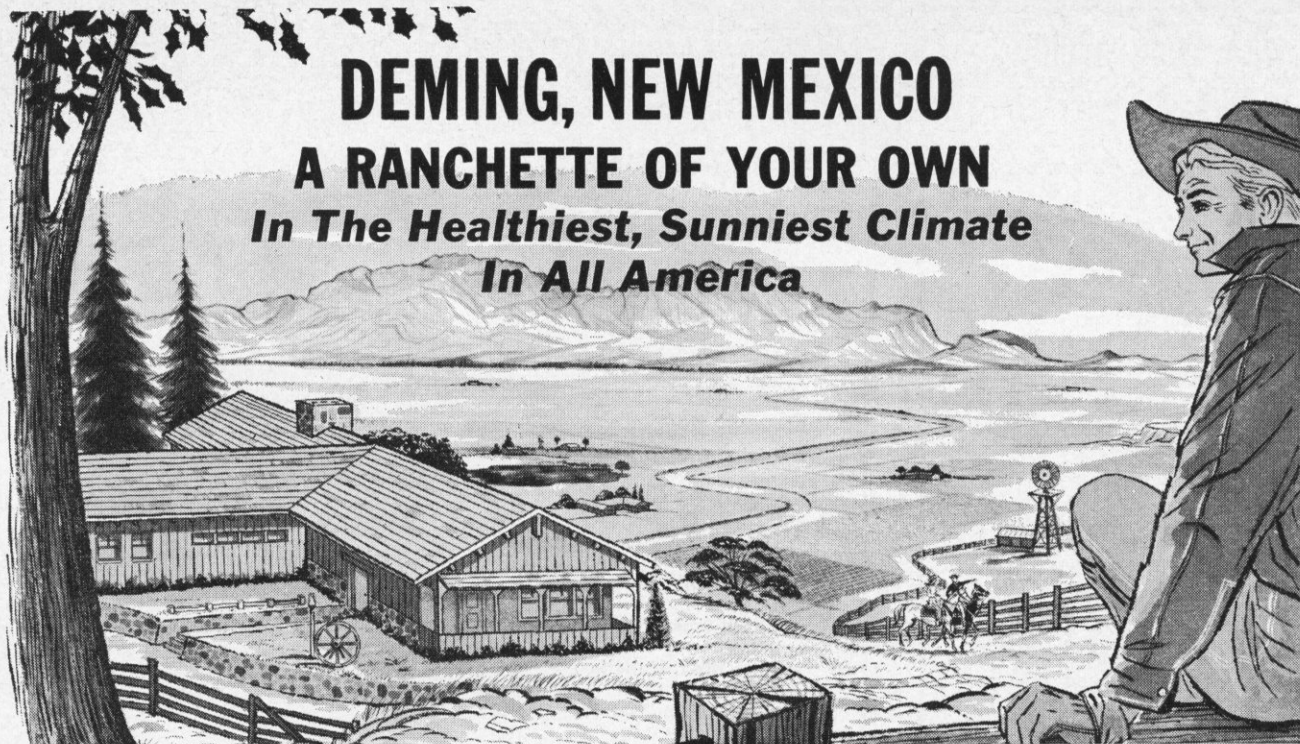
Served with _____ Company and Regiment, Ship or Station _____

Serial No. _____

I served overseas from _____ To _____

Date _____ 19 _____

(Signed) _____



DEMING, NEW MEXICO

A RANCHETTE OF YOUR OWN

In The Healthiest, Sunniest Climate In All America

\$199 PER HALF ACRE

There is a broad ribbon of highway that begins in the heart of Savannah, Georgia and winds for 3000 miles to its terminus in exciting Los Angeles. This ribbon is mighty Route 80—the most travelled all-weather highway in the U.S. Millions of Americans have followed it to the West, coursing through the rich hills of Georgia and Alabama, passing through the heart of Mississippi and Louisiana and entering into the plains of Texas. Gradually the scenery begins to change. Texas begins to roll; distant hills become higher. Then suddenly one emerges into "The Land of Enchantment." New Mexico's wonders erupt in a blaze of color and majesty. The mighty mountains thrust themselves, tree-topped, into the unimaginable blue of the sky. Dust and smoke have vanished from the air and the lungs drink in great delicious draughts in heady delight. If it is wintertime snow may cap the lofty mountains. If it is spring or summer or fall the unspoiled air touches the skin softly and the feeling of well-being is nowhere else equalled. But winter or summer, it is almost certain the sun will be shining in New Mexico—the sunniest, healthiest state of all 50. Yet great 80 is just beginning to take you through the sunshine wonderland of America. In the tropical southwestern pocket of our country you glide through towns like Las Cruces and Deming. A short while westward and you are in Tucson and Phoenix, Arizona, and from there the West Coast beckons. But nowhere in this enchanting Southwest is there a more beautiful area than the mountain-rimmed, pure-aired New Mexico region of **Las Cruces and Deming.**

To live anywhere in New Mexico is to live better. The superb climate, naturally air-conditioned in the summer and brilliantly sunny in the winter—the breathtaking beauty of a lavish Nature—the young vigor of a state that is causing an unprecedented business and investment boom—the record which shows that one lives longer, that health improvement is almost miraculous—these are the reasons that tens of thousands of Americans already have come here to live, and hundreds of thousands of others will be following in the immediate years ahead.

Consider then: Here in the center of this miraculous climate and beauty are towns which have grown amazingly in the last 10 years. Las Cruces, for example: In 1950 it had 12,000 people. By 1960, 37,000... a rise of 300% in 10 years! (How about your town? Has it grown 3 times its size in 10 years?) Like Tucson and Phoenix, this area is a beautiful semi-tropical paradise where palm trees and long staple cotton-fields flower the landscape. Statistics show the same 85% of possible sunshine, summer and winter; these same figures reveal even purer, drier air than in Phoenix or Tucson.

A few minutes from the flavorful city of Deming (population 8,000) is a 5,000 acre Ranch, picture-framed by the breathtaking Florida Mountains. So real, so beautiful, so typically the romance of the Southwest is this valley Ranch that it has been photographed for the covers of many magazines including the official publication of the State of New Mexico. What better way to describe its Southwestern flavor than to tell you that when the producers of the movie **THE TALL TEXAN** sought an authentic locale for their picture, they chose the very land we are now sub-dividing into the **DEMING RANCHETTES**. **THE TALL TEXAN** was filmed on our ranch, the same place where you may have a Ranchette of your very own!

This is the lovely basin of land where heavy equipment is now at work constructing wide roads facing every **DEMING RANCHETTE**. Every Ranchette will have direct access to avenues leading to three major highways surrounding our property—U.S. Highways 80, 70 and State Highway 11.

\$5 DOWN \$5 PER MONTH

DEMING RANCHETTES is blessed with water which is called "America's finest drinking water, 99.99% pure." (Almost every shop in Deming displays this proud claim in its window.) Home building has already begun in **DEMING RANCHETTES** and electric lines and telephone connections await you. Schools, hospitals, churches, shops, theaters, golf course, tennis courts—these are close by in the charming growing city of Deming. Fertile soil is yours for the planting, and wait until you see the stunning landscape of cotton fields in bloom. Fruit trees... apple, peach, pear and plum... do not grow better anywhere.

And the price of your Ranchette? Just \$199 complete for a half-acre, \$5 down and \$5 monthly. That's the complete price—no extras, no interest, no taxes! At this moment you may reserve as many half-acre sites as you wish but please bear this in mind: **DEMING RANCHETTES** is not an enormous development and land such as this goes fast. At these prices you may want your Ranchette to be larger—one, two—even five acres. An immediate deposit will guarantee that your half-acres will adjoin each other (this may not be so in the near future). And you take no risk in sending your deposit. Your \$5 per half-acre will definitely reserve your land but does not obligate you. You have the unqualified right to change your mind 30 days after we send you your Purchaser's Agreement, Property Owner's Kit, Maps and Photographs—30 full days to go through the portfolio, check our references, talk it over with the family. If, during that time, you should indeed change your mind your reservation deposit will be instantly refunded. (Deming and Albuquerque Bank references.)

Ten years ago, in nearby Las Cruces, a comparable fertile half-acre such as we offer in **DEMING RANCHETTES** could have been bought for \$199. Today it's up to \$2000! Experienced realtors predict the same future for Deming—in a much shorter time! If this makes sense to you your next act is mailing the coupon below. And one more thing: we promise that no salesman will annoy you. Thanks, sincerely, for your attention.

DEMING RANCHETTES DEPT. L-14
112 West Pine Street, Deming, New Mexico

Gentlemen: I wish to reserve the following site in Deming Ranchettes:

- ☐ ½ acre for \$199. I enclose \$5 as a deposit.
- ☐ 1 acre for \$395. I enclose \$10 as a deposit.
- ☐ 1½ acres for \$590. I enclose \$15 as a deposit.
- ☐ 2½ acres for \$975. I enclose \$25 as a deposit.
- ☐ 5 acres for \$1925. I enclose \$50 as a deposit.

Please rush complete details, including my Purchaser's Agreement, Property Owner's Kit, Maps, Photographs and all data. It is strictly understood that I may change my mind within 30 days for any reason and that my deposit will be fully and instantly refunded if I do.

NAME.....

ADDRESS.....

CITY.....ZONE.....STATE.....

WILL YOUR ADDRESS LABEL BE PRINTED IN RED?

● If you should find that your name and address on your February copy of V.F.W. Magazine are printed in red—this will tell you that your 1962 Magazine Mailing Address, confirming payment of your 1962 dues, had not been received by the Circulation Department at the National Headquarters by January 15. The mailing list for the February issue will be closed on that date.

As soon as you pay your 1962 dues, your Post Quartermaster is required to forward your 1962 Magazine Mailing Address to the Circulation Department at the National Headquarters.

Your magazine subscription is included in the annual dues that you pay to your Post.

Be sure to give your Post Adjutant or Quartermaster—or the comrade who collects your dues—your correct 1962 mailing address. By heeding this reminder, your Post Quartermaster will be able to forward your correct 1962 Magazine Mailing Address to the V.F.W. Magazine Circulation Department.

New Isotronic Training Method

LEARN TV REPAIR IN ONE SHORT WEEK!

Now, after 5 years' research—a streamlined training system that *obsoletes all others!* In just 7 days you may earn \$150 weekly, without paying up to \$250 for training, studying long months! Developed by electronic scientists in cooperation with major TV mfr's., the new Isotronic method is the most practical ever devised! For conclusive proof, write for details and FREE SAMPLE LESSON. Use it on your own set or a friend's—repair it—convince yourself you can make big money immediately in your own TV business! Hurry—Free Lesson supply limited. Write: TV Servicing Systems, Dept. H211
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V.F.W. MAGAZINE



JANUARY, 1962

VOL. 49, No. 5

V.F.W. OBJECTIVES

*To insure the national security through maximum military strength.
To speed the rehabilitation of the nation's disabled and needy veterans.
To assist the widows and orphans, and the dependents of disabled and needy veterans.
To promote Americanism through education in patriotism and constructive service to the communities in which we live.*

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THE COVER



● Gay times prevailed at many Veterans Administration hospitals this New Year's Day as patients momentarily set aside their ailments to join in festivities arranged by local VA Voluntary Service workers. Artist Fred Irvin's brushes set the scene for this January 1 cover theme. Hospital committees of V.F.W. Posts, Auxiliaries and Cootie Pup Tents across the nation again had a busy season, going through hospital corridors, wards and recreation rooms to bring Christmas and New Year cheer to many veterans. Men and women who volunteer their services in VA hospitals throughout the year have disclosed in letters to V.F.W. Magazine that their time spent in this work proves to be most satisfying. And, the veterans confined to hospitals look forward to these VAVS visitors. The V.F.W. is joined by 42 other veterans, civic, fraternal and service organizations who volunteer year around in the VAVS. There are 170 VA hospitals and 18 domiciliary homes benefiting from the VAVS. But, more volunteers are needed. Contact your Post VAVS chairman, or the VAVS director at any VA hospital for particulars on how you can join the VAVS corps. Bring additional happiness to hospitalized veterans and to yourself... Join the Veterans Administration Voluntary Service!

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VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS OF THE UNITED STATES

V.F.W. MAGAZINE

BOOKS

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO THOSE WHO
HAVE SERVED IN THE ARMED FORCES

Editor's Note: This book section will be published as often as space conditions permit. Reviews contained herein are restricted to books dealing with themes of special interest to V.F.W. members, either as overseas veterans of the Armed Forces or as patriotic citizens who desire information on subjects vital to the preservation of Americanism. The books listed below should be purchased through your nearest book store or direct from the publishers. Do not send orders for books to V.F.W. Magazine.

Wilderness Cookery. By Bradford Angier. The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa. \$3.95. Wholesome food prepared for the outdoorsman gets detailed attention in this writing by an author who has been identified as one of America's foremost outdoor enthusiasts.

Contest Judo. By Charles Yerkow. The Stackpole Co., Harrisburg, Pa. \$4.95. The book is written to improve the play of judo beginners as well as advanced Judoka. Clear action photos assist the training techniques described in words.

The United States in the Supreme War Council. By David F. Trask. Wesleyan University Press, Box 360 Middletown, Conn. \$6.00. The study in this book focuses on the Supreme War Council, established in 1917 as a forerunner to NATO. The Council coordinated Allied strategies and policies.

Hit the Beach. By Arthur A. Ageton. New American Library, 501 Madison Ave., New York 22, N.Y. 35c (paperback). This is a novel about amphibious operations of LST men during World War II at Leyte Gulf, written by a man who commanded LST Flotilla Three in that operation. It is the story of brave men in tiny ships.

What's New in Science. By Fred Reinfeld. Sterling Publishing Co., 419 Fourth Ave., New York 16, N.Y. \$1.25 (paperback). Portable radar for infantry combat areas, altitude recorders for atomic submarines and the heat-seeking missiles fired from airplanes are among the latest developments in the field of defense.

Chess Streamlined. By Milton L. Hanauer. Sterling Publishing Co., 419 Fourth Ave., New York 16, N.Y. \$1.00 (paperback). Aboard ship, for dayroom reading or even out on bivouac, this is a handy paperback edition to improve your chess game and provide greater enjoyment in the process.

True War Stories. (Selected From True Magazine by Bob Considine.) Fawcett World Library, 67 West 44th St., New York 36, N.Y. 50c, (paperback). This anthology includes articles by Eddie Rickenbacker, C. S. Forester, A. J. Liebling and others. Here are stories of World War II that begin where military historians leave off.

Mechanics of Judo. By Robert G. Blanchard. Charles E. Tuttle Company, 28 S. Main St., Rutland, Vt. \$3.75. This volume is limited to the analysis of the 15 most effective tachiwaza (standing techniques). The book is illustrated.

The Conduct of War. (1789-1961). By Maj. Gen. J. F. C. Fuller. Rutgers University Press, 10 College Ave., New Brunswick, N.J. \$6.00. One of the great military historians of our times, General Fuller organized the first British tank corps in World War I. His book points up how political and economic changes since the French Revolution have altered the techniques and the aims of war.

Pistols—A Modern Encyclopedia. Henry M. Stebbins, Albert J. E. Shay and Oscar R. Hammond. The Stackpole Company, Publishers, Harrisburg, Pa. \$12.50. Twenty-five chapters, profusely illustrated, are offered as stepping stones to formal or informal shooting. The book is human as well as technical, thus creating interest in problems of shooting as told by authors who recognize these aspects of such an encyclopedia.

The Hallelujah Army. By Harry Edward Neal. Chilton Books, Chestnut at 56th St., Philadelphia 39, Pa. \$4.95. The dedicated work of members of The Salvation Army is brought out in this book. The story is a three-dimensional picture of the structure and program of The Salvation Army.



The Making of a Magnet. Bell scientists test new superconducting magnet. It's the small cylindrical object being removed from helium bath at 450° F below zero.

DISCOVERY!

New Superconducting Magnet Created by Bell System Research

A new way to make electromagnets that are far more powerful for their size than any ever known before has been discovered by Bell Telephone Laboratories.

The future possibilities are exciting: for satellite communications, research work of many kinds, thermonuclear power, and uses and devices still to be created.

Just as with the transistor and Bell solar battery, also invented at Bell Laboratories, the eventual significance of the new electromagnet is hard to grasp in the early stages.

Here's how it works: At temperatures near absolute zero, certain kinds of wire (suited for electromagnets) become superconducting—that is, they offer no resistance to electric current.

This is fine, and cuts down on power needs. The trouble is, a strong magnet itself destroys superconductivity.

Bell scientists, however, discovered a new superconducting wire compound of niobium and tin, and then found it would remain superconducting at low temperatures, even in strong magnetic fields. This will permit future magnets operating at low cost and using a fraction of the space taken by conventional electromagnets.

The Bell System is advancing scientific progress by publishing its findings and sharing its knowledge of superconducting materials with others. This is in accordance with our established policy on a wide variety of inventions and product designs.

Day after day, it is the time-proved combination of Bell Laboratories research, Western Electric manufacture, and telephone operations in one organization—with close teamwork between all three—that results in good service, low cost and constant improvements in the communications art benefiting all Americans.



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Require Less Formal
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**PROTECT FORESTS
AND WILDLIFE—
ARREST VIOLATORS**



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STREET _____

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BASS FISHERMEN WILL SAY I'M CRAZY—until they try my method!

**JUST ONE TRIAL WILL PROVE THAT I MAKE
EVERY FISHERMAN'S DREAM COME TRUE!**

I have no fishing tackle to sell, I make a good living out of my profession. But fishing is my hobby. And because of this hobby, I discovered a way to get those giant bass—even in waters most fishermen say are "fished out."

I don't spin, troll, cast or use any other method you ever heard of. Yet, without live or prepared bait, I can come home with a string of 5 and 6 pound beauties while a man twenty feet away won't even get a strike. You can learn my method in a few minutes. It is legal in every state. All the equipment you need costs less than a dollar and you can get it in any local store.

The chances are no man who fishes your waters has ever used my method—or even heard of it. When you have tried it—just once—you'll realize what terrific bass fishing you've been missing.

Let me tell you about this method—and explain why I'm willing to let you try it for the whole fishing season without risking a single penny of your money. There is no charge for this information—now or any other time. But I guarantee that the facts I send you can get you started toward the greatest bass fishing you have ever known. Send me your name today—letter or postcard. You've got a real fishing thrill ahead of you. Eric Z. Fare, Highland Park 67, Illinois.

Tell 'em you saw it in the **V.F.W. Magazine**

**ACT
TODAY
ON
THIS!**

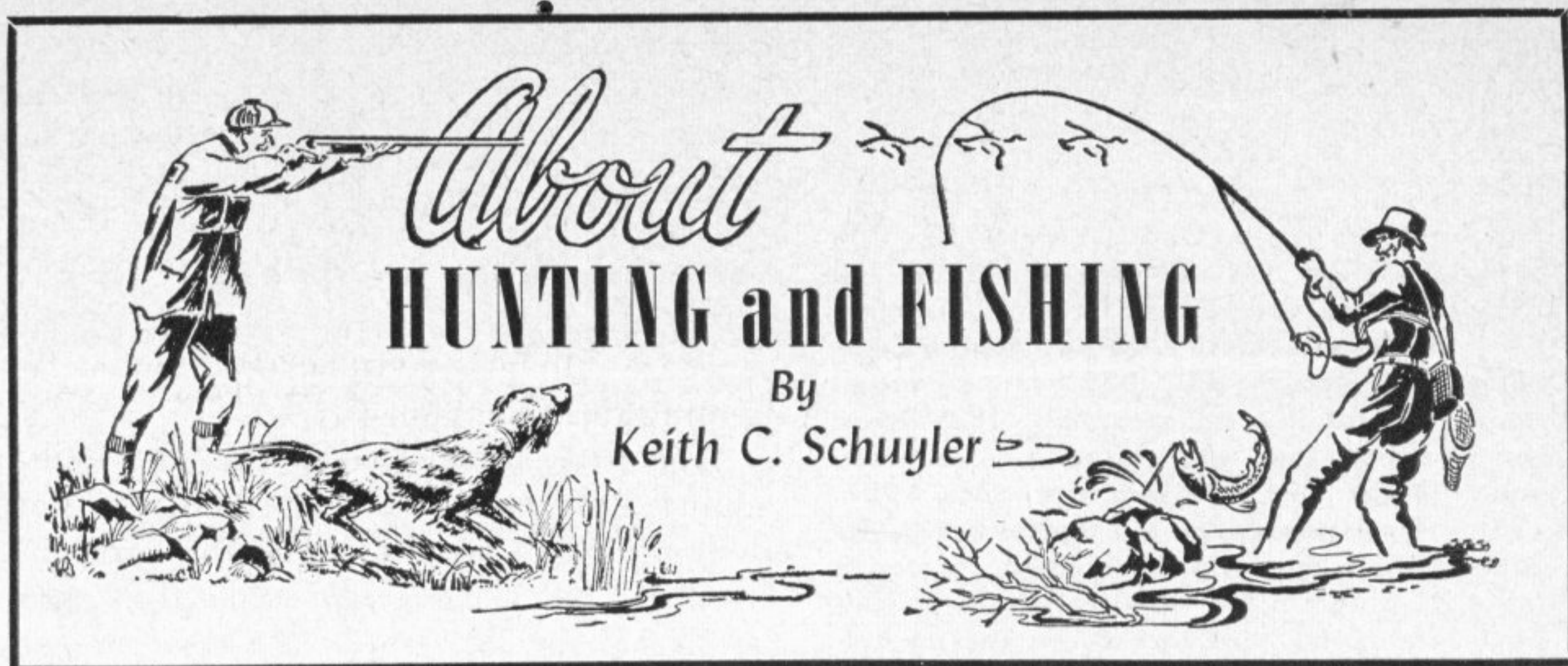


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NATIONAL FRANCHISE REPORTS

333 N. Michigan, Chicago 1

Dept. VW-528



About HUNTING and FISHING

By

Keith C. Schuyler

• Address all hunting and fishing letters to Keith C. Schuyler,
V.F.W. Magazine, Broadway at 34th St., Kansas City 11, Missouri.

BLUNDERING BLACKIES

• Every big-game season brings stories of the hunters who were charged or attacked by black bears. Most are background material to make a hero out of the hunter. Some are honest mistakes. Rarely does a black bear actually turn on his tormentor. The animal's poor eyesight and desire to take the shortest way to safety sometimes gives the impression that the bear is charging when it only wants to be alone.

Typical of most stories wherein the black bear is the villain was one in my area several years ago. A hunter shot a bear out of season when it "attacked" him. Somehow, the hunter managed to shoot the bear in the rear end as it "charged."

UPS AND DOWNS

• An inflexible rule I have given my sons relative to their hunting and fishing equipment is, "Never stand a gun up; never lay a rod down."

Danger to human life and limb as well as breakage to the arm itself can result in standing a gun against a tree, car or cabin. Fishing rods themselves are the only victims when they are laid on the ground, but accidents are frequent. Other hazards include screen doors and car trunk lids—in that order.

COO COUNT

• Wildlife men have run into some question marks concerning the usual method of counting mourning doves. Normally, a census of doves is determined by taking the "coo count." Men are stationed at listening points, and they calculate the population by the number of coos heard. Now it has been discovered that the male dove will coo ten times more often if his mate is away from home. Consequently, just a couple wayward women doves could foul up the count considerably.

TACKLE STATISTICS

• Of the fishing tackle dollar, 40¢ goes for reels; 20¢ for lures; 10¢ for rods and 30¢ for all other paraphernalia. Of the over 200 manufacturers of tackle, 65% have sales of less than \$25,000; 30% sell between \$250,000 and \$1 million; and only 5% have sales in excess of \$1 million.

HAIR AND AIR

• Nature's help to animals is no more evident than during the early deer seasons now occasioned by bow hunting across the nation. Usually coming during the period when Indian Summer changes to winter, this early season permits easy observation of the fast change in the coat of the deer. There is a vast difference in the amount of hair on the hide of deer brought in only days apart if a cold snap intervenes.

Trappers, of course, have long been aware of this natural phenomena. Fur-bearing animal pelts bring the best prices when the temperature is lowest. This is when the hair is heaviest.

ARMORED ANIMALS

• Most are familiar with the K-9 Corps of World War II when many dogs distinguished themselves by serving as messengers, scouts, mine detectors, sentries and pack animals. However, in ancient and medieval history, the dog served as a combat soldier with good effect. In earliest times, the dog was fitted with armor much in the manner of knights, and it was trained for offense as well as defense.

The advent of gunpowder reduced the dog's value as a combat soldier, but its highly developed sense of smell, inherent intelligence and loyalty will make it ever useful in war. Already it has repeated its usefulness to man through space exploration. Dog and man seem inseparable.

MISS IN A MILLION

I saw a broken shotgun shell casing recently from an incident that defies all known statistics. It had been fired by the mechanism in a repeating shotgun at the magazine. After the first shot at a duck, the hunter was attempting the second when the jam occurred. The edge of the block fired the second shell as it was still pointed forward in the magazine.

This, in itself, was most unusual. To top it off, only the primer went off in the second shell! Powder and shot were scattered throughout the gun's mechanism, but the main explosion had not occurred. If it had, the third shell would also have fired! The hunter miraculously escaped serious injury in this misfire in a million.

V.F.W. MAGAZINE

ANGLING UP

• A total of 19,080,604 sport fishermen in 50 states purchased one or more licenses for fish during 1960. Add to these the number of youngsters who need no license, and the figure increases to 25,323,000. This group spent \$2,690,872,000 on its sport. It takes a lot of water to keep these lines from tangling; let's conserve every drop we can. Those who intentionally pollute our streams are public enemies and should be treated as such.

TREES AND DISEASE

• "Sanitation" has proven the best defense against the spread of Dutch elm disease. This tree infection has threatened one of New England's greatest natural assets. Spraying appears to have killed more birds than elm bark beetles, the bugs held responsible for spread of the disease. In New York State, prompt removal of and burning of dying and dead branches and trees has been more effective than spraying.

Spread of the population to rural areas has made the public more aware of our forest problems. Careless use of pesticides, however, is often more of a threat to our living natural resources than that against which they are used.

DUCK FILM

• Long needed, "Know Your Ducks," a 14-minute motion picture in sound and color is now available through regional offices of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. This is the first in a series of films designed to promote better identification of waterfowl.

Not only does the film help hunters to identify ducks, it shows them sensible shooting distances. To many hunters, "Ducks are ducks," and this ignorance has helped to further deplete numbers of species which need more protection. For more information, contact: Department of the Interior, Washington 24, D.C.

FALL-OUT FAUNA

• Already nature is being called upon in a new measure to help save fallible humans from their own destruction. Thyroid glands from freshly killed Maryland white-tail deer are being used to measure the fall-out of radioactive iodine from Russian

new home-import business...

Now you can get exciting Imports at trifling cost abroad and sell them by mail order, or to friends and stores. New Plan starts you in full or spare time without capital or previous experience. Just imagine the *huge profit* you could make on this 17-jewel watch you can get for only \$2.87 in Europe—the 16-mm camera at just \$2.30, the transistor radio or the hunting rifle. Mellinger globe-trotting couriers discover and show you how to get fast-selling imports just like these—Show you how you can deduct your profit in advance, even *before* ordering merchandise.

Famous World Trader Guides You

You'll receive personal step-by-step guidance from B. L. Mellinger, one of the most famous international traders the world has ever known. Mr. Mellinger even shows you how to put experience you have gained through jobs, hobbies and interests to work making extra import profits for you.



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France \$2.87

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TO GET DAZZLING BUYS LIKE THESE FOR
BIG PROFIT U. S. SALES. PRICES SHOWN
ARE DIRECT FROM SUPPLIERS ABROAD.
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testing. The glands are shipped under refrigeration to Washington State where they are analyzed by the General Electric Company in a cooperative project involving the Natural Resources Institute of University of Maryland and Atomic Energy Commission. The radioactive material, designated Iodine 131, is formed in nuclear blasts, and it arrives in this country with other fallout elements. Deer pick up the iodine in food and water, and it is stored in the thyroid gland.

All mammals, including man, do the same, but deer are being used for the

study because they are already being collected and studied for other purposes.

GLANDS AND GULLS

• Researchers of Harvard Medical School are enlisting the aid of nature in a study to find out how certain birds can extract salt from sea water. It is known that gulls have a salt gland above the eye with which the separation is effected. Recently a supply of herring gulls and a black-backed gull, including their glands, were provided by the Fish and Wildlife Service for the research work.

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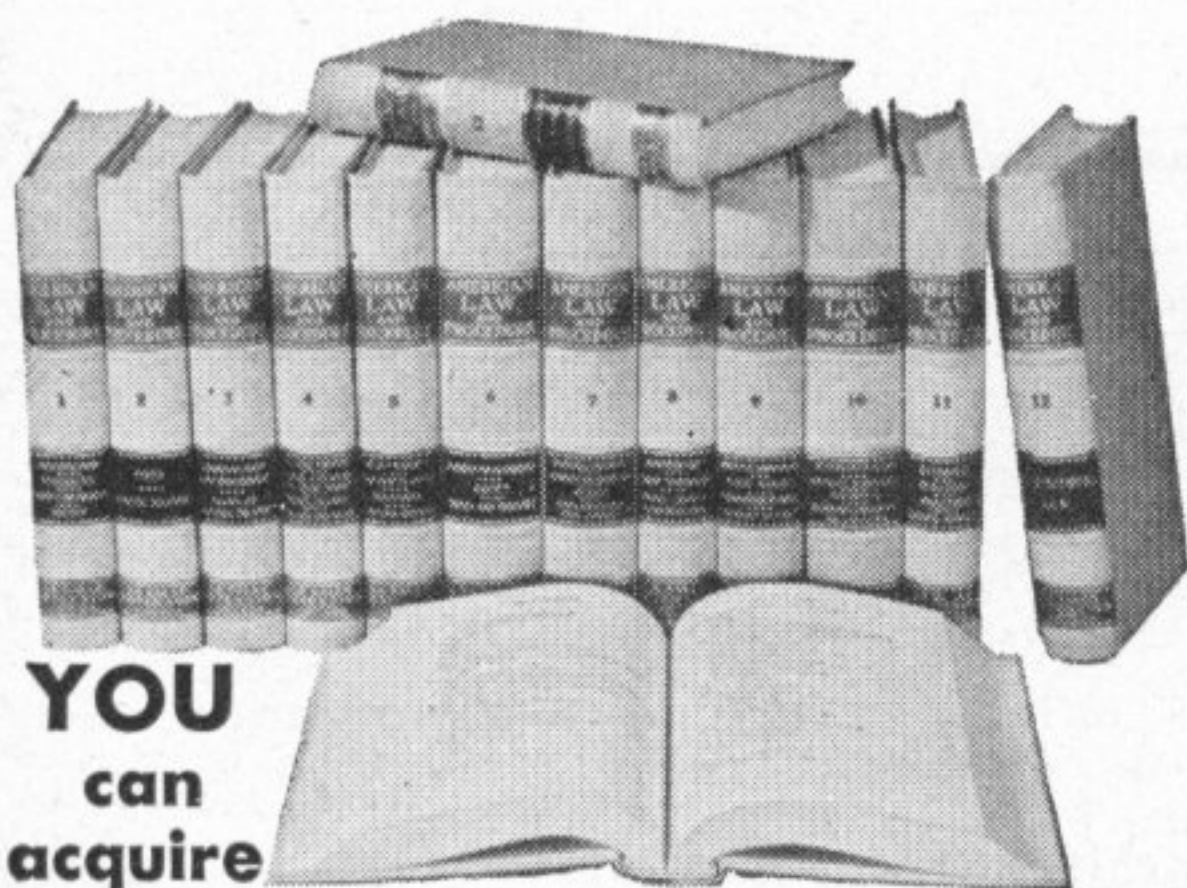
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The three top winners in the 1961 V.F.W.—N.R.A. national junior rifle matches and their adult companions shown with their kills following a deer hunt given by the V.F.W. Left to right: Kenneth Dahlke, Waterloo, Wis., 3rd place winner; J. W. Cole, Chairman, V.F.W. National Youth Activities Committee; Jim Meitner, Post 6614, Waterloo, Wis.; Ronald Stephens, Fort Worth, Tex.; 1st place winner; Junior Vice Commander George Campbell, Post 708, Fort Worth, Tex.; L. N. Kirkpatrick, Youth Activities Director, Department of Texas; Jerry Barton, Fort Worth, Tex., 2nd place contest winner.

Second Annual Texas Deer Hunt for V.F.W. Rifle Contest Winners

"IT'S JUST WONDERFUL—the first experience like this I've ever had," exclaimed 17-year-old Ronald Stephens as he gazed fondly at the eight-point buck deer he had just felled with a single shot. Young Stephens, from Fort Worth, Tex., received his big hunting thrill as his reward for placing first in the 1961 V.F.W.—N.R.A. national junior postal rifle matches.

The unique program of awarding a free deer hunt to the winners in the rifle contest was inaugurated by the V.F.W. last year to promote the formation of Junior Rifle Clubs throughout the country. Fully sanctioned by the National Rifle Association, the hunt is jointly sponsored by the V.F.W. National and Department Youth Activities committees, Post 8549, Eden, Tex., and Milroy Powell, owner of the 10,000 acre ranch near Eden where the hunts are held.

Second place winner in the 1961 contest was Jerry Barton, 17, also from Fort Worth, Tex. Jerry represented the Dept. of Texas at the hunt as the first place winner in his state. Kenneth Dahlke, 16, Waterloo, Wis., was winner of third place in the national contest.

Both Ronnie Stephens and Jerry Barton were sponsored in the contest by Post 708, Fort Worth, Tex. They were accompanied on the hunt by two members of the Post, Post Adjutant Darrell Conn and Post Junior Vice Commander George Campbell. Kenneth Dahlke was sponsored by Post 6614, Waterloo, Wis. His rifle team coach, Jim Meitner, came with him.

All three boys shot a deer and shared equally in the thrill of making a big game kill. In addition, two other deer were bagged during the day by others in the hunting party.

Representing the national organization at the hunt was J. W. "Bill" Cole, Abilene, Tex., Chairman of the National Youth Activities Committee. Also included in the party were L. N. Kirkpatrick, Eden, Tex., Chairman of the Department Youth Activities Committee; Commander W. E. Selman, Post 8549, Eden; Past Commander T. H. Parrish, Post 8549; Milroy Powell, host to the group, and Raymond Pfluger, who served as guides, and Russ Latshaw, San Angelo, Tex., of the National Rifle Association.

Ronald Stephens, the winner of this year's rifle contest, attends Technical High School in Fort Worth and is a member of the school's R.O.T.C. rifle team. In addition to shooting and hunting, his hobbies include Judo and building model aircraft. Following graduation from high school he hopes to receive an appointment to the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.

Chairman Cole says this about the V.F.W. rifle program: "Approximately 1,000 boys and girls fired in this year's rifle matches. Every V.F.W. Post should avail itself of the opportunity to teach young people the proper use of firearms by sponsoring a Junior Rifle Club. Perhaps one of your boys or girls will become a champion. No greater thrill can come to an adult leader than this experience of seeing his young pupil register his first big game kill."

Plans Underway for 1962 National Convention in Minneapolis

DR. JAMES W. REID, Post 4462, West St. Paul, Minn., was named president of the 63rd V.F.W. National Convention Corporation, during formation meetings held in November in the Twin Cities of Minneapolis-St. Paul, Minn.

Dr. Reid is serving as Junior Vice Commander of his Post in West St. Paul and is chairman of the National Hospital Committee. His wife, Lola Reid is Senior Vice President of the Dept. of Minnesota Ladies Auxiliary to the V.F.W. She is also a member of the 1962 National Convention Committee of the Ladies Auxiliary. The Reids reside in South St. Paul.

The annual convention will be held Aug. 10-17 in Minneapolis, Minn., with sessions scheduled in the Hotel Leamington and the Civic Auditorium.

The Leamington has been designated as V.F.W. National Headquarters hotel. The Ladies Auxiliary will convene in the Raddison Hotel.

Minneapolis is a centrally located city that is readily accessible by all means of transportation. Convention officers therefore expect the forthcoming event to be one of the best attended in convention history.

Named to assist Dr. Reid in planning the convention are Glenn H. Swale, Minneapolis, Secretary-Treasurer; William K.

Zelle, St. Paul, Alcuin Loehr, St. Cloud, and Howard Moore, Minneapolis, Directors. Moore has been appointed also as corporation attorney.

National officers of the V.F.W. who were named also as Directors are: Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Joseph J. Lombardo, Adjutant General Julian Dickenson, Judge Advocate General John A. Jenkins and Chief of Staff Charles E. Kinney.

National Convention Director Adrian J. Grobsmith said that names of active V.F.W. members have been submitted to the corporation officials for consideration as chairmen and co-chairmen of important convention committees. Officers and directors are engaged at present in a careful review of members who shall be named to direct the various committees' work.

"The many long hours of planning," Director Grobsmith said, "that normally are a part of each V.F.W. National Convention, are forming the August event into definite shape."

Accommodations at the University of Minnesota were inspected relative to the possibility of housing the many musical and uniformed units that annually partici-

(Continued on page 24)

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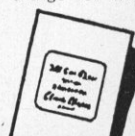
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You can register in advance for \$2.50. If you wait to register upon arrival in Minneapolis the fee will be \$3.00.

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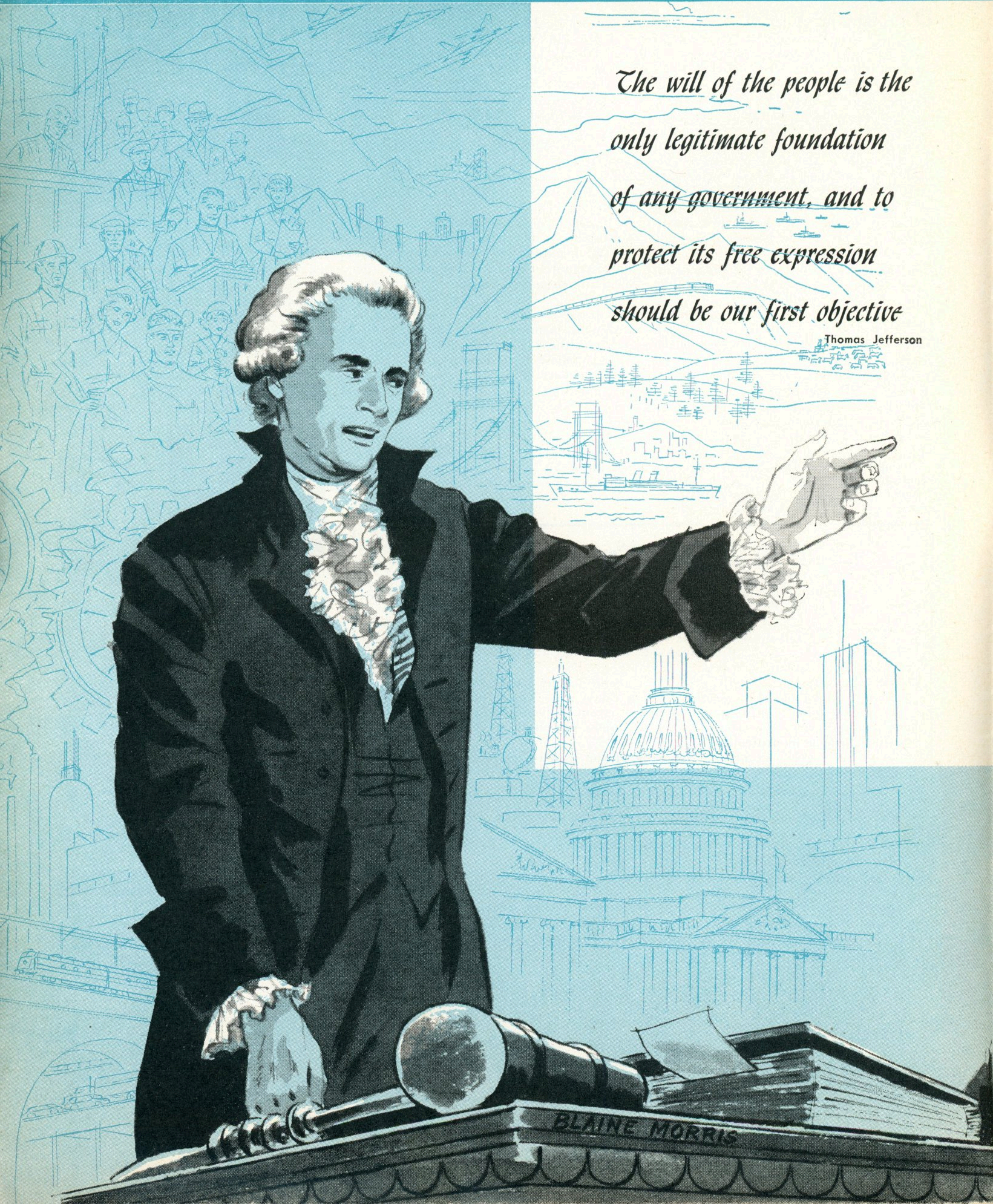
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WHAT MAKES

*The will of the people is the
only legitimate foundation
of any government, and to
protect its free expression
should be our first objective*

Thomas Jefferson



AMERICA GREAT

By **ALLEN DRURY**

Author of "Advise and Consent"

IN TERMS OF A STANDARD now desperately embattled in the world, one kind of greatness in a nation can be assessed by the answer to the simple question: Are its people free? On the affirmative answer to that, perhaps more than on any other single thing, the United States of America, having been tried and tested in many fires since 1776, can assert the claim to be adjudged a great nation. Freedom, of course, is not an easy thing: it is the most difficult of all forms of government. That is why cowardly men, from Moscow to Havana, are crawling away from it back into the black ooze of slavery, from which, too briefly and perhaps too charitably, history once tried to lift them. Freedom takes guts. Some peoples have them; some peoples do not. The twentieth century, most violent crucible yet provided for the human race is rapidly finding out which is which.

In that testing, the Great Republic of the West still stands supreme, battered though she is by the vicious and incessant onslaughts of her enemies and the occasional confusions and wearings of will of her own citizens. Her freedom is not perfect—but it is a long sight better than that of most of her contemporaries. Her liberties are not everywhere as thorough and complete as they should be—but compared to the grimly laughable mockeries of liberty that go on in Rus-

sia and elsewhere, they shine like a ten-fold beacon in the night. Her errors are those of the goodhearted; her ineptitudes those of a contender who cannot yet quite conceive of the utter corruptions of the utter evil arrayed against her. She is awkward at times, blundering at times, shortsighted at times, at times hesitant and uncertain and almost willfully stupid. She is, now and again, an object of ridicule to a carping world and, upon occasion, an object of scorn. But she is free.

Few other nations in this sick and shabby century can make that claim.

To find the reasons for this, one must do something as simple as read the history books and, perhaps, wave a flag.

In Philadelphia in 1787, there convened 55 men, possibly the most concentrated aggregation of intelligence, integrity, judgment, philosophical scope, and political sophistication ever gathered together for the purpose of founding a government. Four months later, they had

Editor's Note: This tribute to America's greatness was first published in the January, 1961, issue of McCall's. Although the publishers speak of their periodical as the "First Magazine for Women," they truly deserve a special salute from both the men and women of this country for their foresight in publishing this brilliant essay on America. Patriotic organizations like our own applaud this brand of loyalty vigorously. May McCall's list of 8,000,000 subscribers never cease to grow.

Allen Drury's terrific talent as a writer speaks for itself. His superb analysis of the factors that make America great accents truths that most of us are prone to forget because we have fallen into the habit of taking our blessings for granted.

produced the Constitution of the United States, a document of startling vitality, whose tenaciously flexible provisions still dominate, control, and inform the governance of the country. Within its specific clauses and its conveniently vague "twilight areas," there has been found sufficient warrant for all the different kinds of authority needed to meet the challenges of civil war, world war, catastrophe, and depression. Triumphant it has conquered them all, and today the Constitution, like the Republic it directs, stands a living reality. Drafted with supreme astuteness and guarded with jealous loyalty down the years, it is the world's oldest federal constitution. Realizing they have a good thing, those who live under its protections seldom attack and rarely amend its provisions. It is no accident that they are among the world's freest peoples.

Under it, there functions the great genius of the American political system,
(Continued on page 34)





One Night In Hell

WHEN OUR TROOPS LEARNED WELL THE THREE BITTER LESSONS OF COMBAT

LESSON No. 1—Never underestimate your enemy, be he one or one thousand.

Lesson No. 2—To relax too soon is to die too soon.

Lesson No. 3—There is always one last twitch left in the dying tiger's tail.

After eighteen incredible days of bloody fighting over the exhausting terrain of the mountainous island of Attu, the American 7th Infantry Division had every reason to relax its drive. The Japanese garrison of 2,300 veteran soldiers had been reduced to less than 700.

Despite the brilliant, skillful military defensive actions of the Japanese commander, the 7th relentlessly chewed up the enemy positions. They had done so with inadequate arms, inadequate supplies, and no proper training and preparation for the climate and terrain. It had been done mainly on gut-strength. Attu was one of our most poorly planned military operations of World War II. The 7th paid the price.

Colonel Yasuyo Yamasaki knew that the Yankee strength was ebbing. The invaders would ease-off briefly, gathering themselves for a final smash. The colonel grimly faced the fact that no assistance was forthcoming from the Emperor. He did not question it. Somehow he had to produce a miracle, entirely of his own making, and defeat the Americans.

On the night of May 28, 1943, he was confident of success. At first glance the over-all situation made it appear that the colonel was quite mad. The Japanese were pocketed in the area of Chichagof Harbor. There could be no further retreat. The Americans were in strength along Fish Hook Ridge, overlooking the harbor. The avenue to the harbor, down which the American infantry would come with the next dawning, was Jim Fish Valley. Then the era of the Rising Sun flag flying over Attu would be at an end.

Ah, so, but the Americans had not yet had an opportunity to learn the three lessons. To the colonel, Jim Fish Valley was a two-way street. He had no taste for a suicidal last-stand, especially in Chichagof Harbor. He was determined to push

through Jim Fish Valley to Sarana Valley, thence to Engineer Hill, and beyond to Hogback Ridge and the prize, the American artillery.

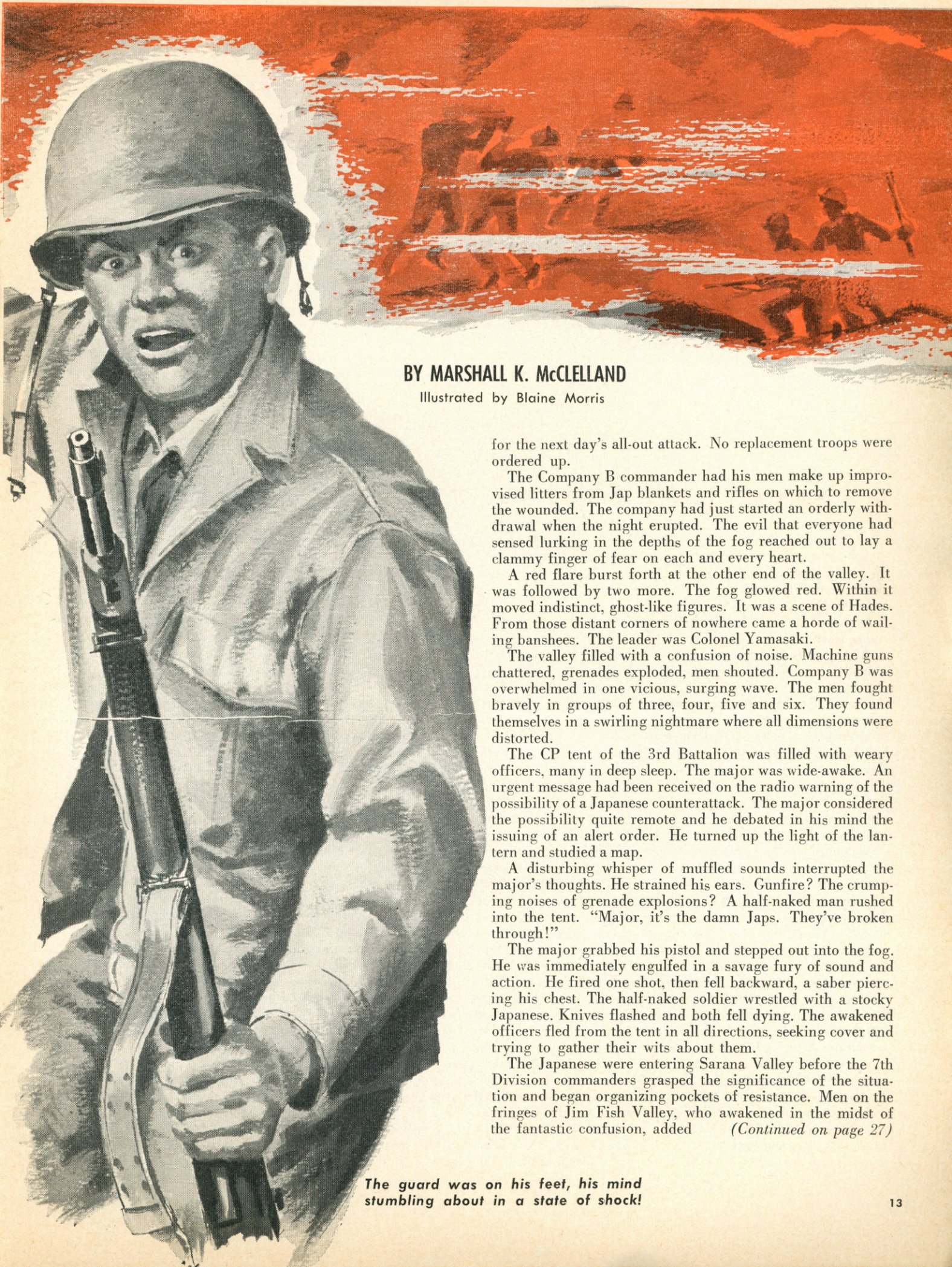
Once those 105s were captured, the colonel knew he could wipe out the main American base at Massacre Bay, destroy the 7th Division's supply lines, and force the invaders back to their ships.

An ally came to aid the colonel. He knew it would. He knew Attu and he knew how the fog would come in from the sea at a certain time. The wet, clinging fog of the Aleutian Islands chain had special qualities. It was a fine, sifting mist, spilling silently over the mountains and down through the passes and into the valleys. One instant it wasn't there. The next instant it enfolded you like a white shroud, chilling the marrow of your bones, isolating you from reality, depressing your spirit.

It was the middle of the evening. The men of the 7th pitched tents. Some went to sleep. Others joined chow lines where hot food was being served. Company B of the 32nd Regiment received orders to move into Jim Fish Valley and then up to the edge of one of the valley's small lakes. There they were to establish a frontal line extending from the base of Fish Hook Ridge on across the floor of the valley.

The company had started its forward movement when the fog enveloped it. Three times scouts encountered slight resistance from minor Japanese positions. It was difficult for the platoon leaders to maintain contact and to determine relative progress. As the company neared the lake the tempo of gunfire increased. Men died, now an American, now a Japanese, sometimes quietly, sometimes protesting in screaming anguish.

With the lake achieved and the platoons again orientated, and their military position fairly well stabilized, an amazing order came up at midnight. Company B was to return to the battalion kitchen behind Fish Hook Ridge for a hot breakfast. Someone had decided the men needed stomach fortification



BY MARSHALL K. McCLELLAND

Illustrated by Blaine Morris

for the next day's all-out attack. No replacement troops were ordered up.

The Company B commander had his men make up improvised litters from Jap blankets and rifles on which to remove the wounded. The company had just started an orderly withdrawal when the night erupted. The evil that everyone had sensed lurking in the depths of the fog reached out to lay a clammy finger of fear on each and every heart.

A red flare burst forth at the other end of the valley. It was followed by two more. The fog glowed red. Within it moved indistinct, ghost-like figures. It was a scene of Hades. From those distant corners of nowhere came a horde of wailing banshees. The leader was Colonel Yamasaki.

The valley filled with a confusion of noise. Machine guns chattered, grenades exploded, men shouted. Company B was overwhelmed in one vicious, surging wave. The men fought bravely in groups of three, four, five and six. They found themselves in a swirling nightmare where all dimensions were distorted.

The CP tent of the 3rd Battalion was filled with weary officers, many in deep sleep. The major was wide-awake. An urgent message had been received on the radio warning of the possibility of a Japanese counterattack. The major considered the possibility quite remote and he debated in his mind the issuing of an alert order. He turned up the light of the lantern and studied a map.

A disturbing whisper of muffled sounds interrupted the major's thoughts. He strained his ears. Gunfire? The crumping noises of grenade explosions? A half-naked man rushed into the tent. "Major, it's the damn Japs. They've broken through!"

The major grabbed his pistol and stepped out into the fog. He was immediately engulfed in a savage fury of sound and action. He fired one shot, then fell backward, a saber piercing his chest. The half-naked soldier wrestled with a stocky Japanese. Knives flashed and both fell dying. The awakened officers fled from the tent in all directions, seeking cover and trying to gather their wits about them.

The Japanese were entering Sarana Valley before the 7th Division commanders grasped the significance of the situation and began organizing pockets of resistance. Men on the fringes of Jim Fish Valley, who awakened in the midst of the fantastic confusion, added

(Continued on page 27)

The guard was on his feet, his mind stumbling about in a state of shock!

Our National Defense Posture

CHALLENGES OF THE MISSILE AND SPACE AGE BEING MET WITH GREAT ADVANCES IN SCIENCE

THE UNITED STATES of America is dedicated to a policy of peace through strength, with honor. These principles go hand in hand. Peace alone could not be worth having. In the world of today, with the evil intents and purposes of International Communism, military strength is vitally necessary. Honor without peace—in an age of weapons of mass destruction—would also be empty.

Our policy of peace with strength and honor has several elements. One necessary part is to meet the threat of aggression from abroad with an effective system capable of both offense, as well as deterrent action. But having our weapons in being gives us a power for peace in those parts of the world where only armed strength is respected.

Another element in our national policy of peace with honor is to develop a stronger and growing economy. It is not that material progress is to be equated with human happiness, but it is important so long as some segments of our population are inadequately housed, fed, and clothed. Our problems are small compared with most parts of the world, but we can see room for improvement, including the assurance of employment to all those who need it.

A stronger economy makes it easier to carry the tax burden of our national defense. A stronger economy also lays a part of the foundation of a necessary element in our policy of peace through strength, with honor. We seek a better life for our people. If they have their economic needs met, we can also improve their education, increase leisure time, support the fine arts, and aesthetic improvements in our cities and countryside, and do other things which make for what people call a better life.

Another element in our national policy is one of cooperation with the rest of the world. In the moral sense, all men are our brothers, and the world has become too small a place for us to be able to disregard what goes on in other parts of the world. Trade, technical assistance, cultural interchange, travel, and a sincere interest in other peoples make the world a better and safer place and make the United States more deserving of the lead-

ership which its great capacity and strength has thrust upon her. For many practical reasons, we need allies, both in peace and in war, if it should come. For these reasons, international cooperation in its many forms is an element in our national policy of peace through strength, with honor.

We are interested in the national security of the United States because our individual well-being and even survival is dependent upon the protection of the nation, and because the nation is the embodiment of values important to our hearts and minds. National security is a broader concept than national defense, which is an important element in national security. Our security is a result of comparing our defenses, military, political, social and moral, with the several threats which confront them. Thus our national security is affected not only by the strength of our armed forces, but also by our position of economic and political leadership in the world. It is affected also by such moral leadership and respect as we may have won, and certainly by the mood and resolution of our people. It is within this conceptual framework that we can assess our national defense posture with particular reference to the missile and space programs.

Our national space program, which is still in its early stages, is the product of cumulative forces at work throughout our society, particularly in the technical area. But it is more than this, for the fundamental knowledge required to start a space program has been present for many years longer than the national decision to pursue such aims. Dreamers in several parts of the world have conceived in their minds how man could be free from the bounds of earth to explore the vast reaches of infinity. But space received its first strong start in the area of military innovation. The Germans pushed experimental rocketry to a practical level which included the penetration of space by ballistic missiles.

After World War II, these technologies were further developed in several parts of the world, but particularly by the Soviet Union. Our own leadership in

nuclear weapons and in heavy bombers reduced the urgency of developing long range ballistic missiles until a fairly recent date. However, in 1954 there came a breakthrough in the size of possible missile nuclear warheads. For the first time, such missiles represented a logical course of weapons development by the United States. The Soviet Union, for reasons which are not altogether clear, decided some years earlier, before small warheads were available, to develop long range ballistic missiles. These required great size if they were to perform any useful military task.

The consequence was that we started toward an efficient size of ballistic missile for the intercontinental range in 1954 and 1955, while the Soviet Union demonstrated a much larger missile in actual test as early as 1957. In turn, they have been provided automatically with a large space booster of well-tested efficiency for putting up very large space payloads. Only much later have we begun the process of designing large boosters for space purposes, although our work on smaller efficient missiles has continued without abatement since 1954.

Incidentally, even the fact that we have missiles now is based upon a series of experimental rocket developments carried on in this country between 1946 and 1954. Without these we would have lacked the technological base for the ballistic missile effort. We were fortunate to have both the Army work carried on at White Sands and Redstone Arsenal, and the Air Force work carried on principally in California. This work led to a moderately large rocket engine and the type of structure copied in our present-day operational missiles. The Navy made its contributions, too, in this earlier period, especially in its experiments with solid propellants and guidance techniques.

Gradually as our techniques improved, military leaders and scientists joined in urging a real assault on space by the United States. But these pleas were not too seriously taken by the people or by the government until the IGY started a scientific satellite program in 1955 and the Soviet Union electrified the world

By
Hon. John W. McCormack

Majority Leader and Acting Speaker
U.S. House of Representatives

with the launching of Sputnik I, followed by increasingly large payloads carrying the hammer and sickle label. Leadtimes are so long that many months or even years must pass between the time of making a decision and seeing the results in space flight. Patience is not one of our national virtues, since all of us are so eager to see progress in the United States space program.

Moving with great effectiveness in 1958, the Congress and the executive branch—in a most successful cooperative, bipartisan effort—created the means for pursuing a vigorous space program by the passage of the National Aeronautics and Space Act. This Act dedicated our development of outer space to peaceful purposes while at the same time protected our legitimate defense interests in space. I was chairman of the House committee responsible for this legislation.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration was created as a civilian agency to develop our space "knowhow" and to find uses for these techniques. The results are beginning to become apparent. Space is paying off in many directions, as was intended. There is a new demand for improved education, particularly in technical and scientific fields, to meet the growing needs for new skills related to space and to our industry across the board. Advances in science brought about by space research are increasing not only our understanding of the universe, but also are finding application in medicine to save lives, in power generation to cut costs, in computers to revolutionize many parts of present-day life, and so forth down a long list of fields.

To meet the challenges of space technology, our industry is having to work with new materials to closer tolerances, and thus gaining a versatility which will richly reward us with its new-found strength and vigor. Just the new investment in plant and facilities for space is creating more jobs. For money spent for space is spent here on earth. Space is enhancing the national security by its opportunities for us to cooperate with

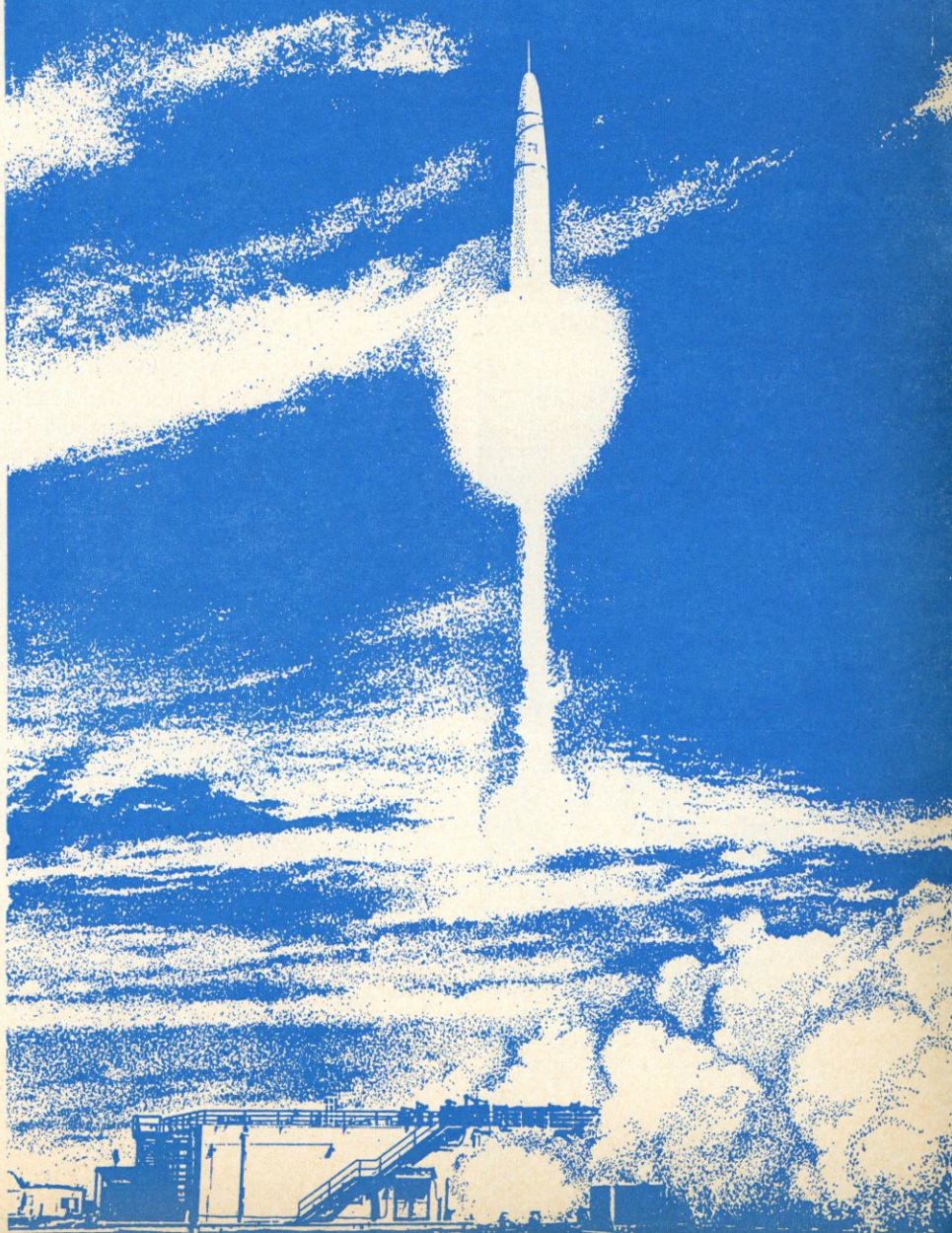
(Continued on page 29)



Editor's Note

• The Hon. John W. McCormack, Majority Leader and now Acting Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives has served in the Congress since 1927. A native of Dorchester, Mass., he was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1920 following service in World War I. Elected to the Massachusetts Senate in 1923, he served until assuming national office. Congressman McCormack, always a staunch

supporter of the nation's veterans, is the author of much legislation pertaining to veterans welfare. And, as this article clearly indicates, he also maintains a keen interest in the security and defense problems of the United States.



Pilgrimage Travelers Help Strengthen People to People Friendship Ties With Free Europe

VISIT TO FOUR COUNTRIES ALSO GIVES V.F.W. PILGRIMAGE GROUP INSIGHT
INTO PROBLEMS OF INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

Bound for Europe on the night of November 4, members of the V.F.W. Pilgrimage boarded the Air France jet airplane at New York. In the right foreground are Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen and his wife, Pauline. V.F.W. National Auxiliary President Beulah A. Adamson, is in the left foreground. Many of the 81 persons who made the trip are standing in the background.



UNITY OF PURPOSE between the United States and the free Western nations of Europe in the stand against Communist aggressors was emphasized forcefully to members of the recent V. F. W. Pilgrimage to Europe.

This message of unity was clearly evident during the 17-day trip to Europe which began Nov. 4 with Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen leading the contingent of 81 V.F.W. and Ladies Auxiliary members and their acquaintances.

Representing the Ladies Auxiliary to the V.F.W. on the European journey was National Auxiliary President Beulah A. Adamson. Her brother, Gifford Adamson, served as escort. Mrs. Pauline Hansen, wife of the Commander-in-Chief, accompanied her husband on the journey.

From London to Paris to East Berlin's famed anti-freedom wall and south to Rome, the V.F.W. pilgrims were encouraged by outward signs of preparedness of Allied nations in Europe.

Coupled with a first hand evaluation of Western defenses in Europe, the touring pilgrims also fulfilled another objective of the trip: They had the opportunity to pay their respects to the fallen warriors of America, those men whose final resting places are in the U.S. Military Cemeteries of Europe.

Eastbound over the Atlantic Ocean in an Air France jet aircraft, the V.F.W. travelers departed New York's Idlewild International Airport on Nov. 4, following a reception at which Commander-in-Chief Hansen served as host.

At Paris, France, the first stop on foreign soil, the group transferred to an-

other airplane for the brief flight across the English Channel to London. There, in the city of pomp and royalty, the V.F.W. Pilgrimage arrived at the noon hour on Nov. 5 and set out on the swing through Europe.

While many of the group followed the tour routes leading to Buckingham Palace, Fleet Street, London Bridge, Westminster Abbey and the London Tower, an initial highlight for Commander-in-Chief Hansen and his party was the visit to the home of J. Paul Getty, world financier of renown who resides at Sutton Place.

Famed as a center of an outstanding collection of the world's great art, Sutton Place and its inhabitants welcomed the V.F.W. contingent in elegant British style. Members of the U.S. military units assigned to England were included among the guests at the V.F.W. reception at Sutton Place.

Commander-in-Chief Hansen receives the document which accompanied the Gold Medal of the City of Paris presented to him by Mayor Paul Minot. The lady in the center is an interpreter.

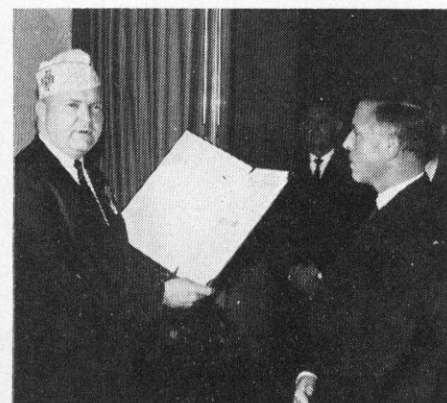
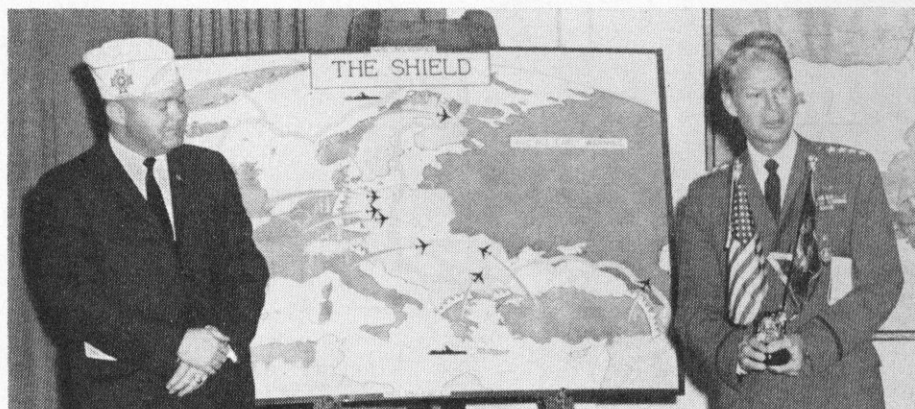




ABOVE: Before attending a special briefing at Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), just outside Paris, the V.F.W. travelers assembled for a group photograph on the steps of the famous military headquarters. Commander-in-Chief Hansen and Auxiliary President Adamson can be seen front row, center. BELOW RIGHT: General Lauris Norstad, Supreme Allied Commander Europe, acquaints Hansen with the latest Allied defense measures.

Commander-in-Chief Hansen interrupted his schedule with the touring Americans to meet with military leaders during the four day visit in London and environs. For example, while the group toured Windsor Castle, summer home for British kings and queens for more than 800 years, Hansen conferred with personnel at the United States Naval Headquarters in London.

Commander Frank Manson told Hansen of the ceaseless efforts being under-



ABOVE: Raymond Triboulet, French Minister for Veterans Affairs, receives a V.F.W. Distinguished Service Cross and Citation for promoting mutual understanding between his country and the United States. Commander-in-Chief Hansen is shown reading from the citation. BELOW RIGHT: Wreaths were placed on the tomb of France's Unknown Soldier at the Arc de Triomphe during special V.F.W. services held on November 8.

taken by Navy personnel in Europe as a means to foster the "people-to-people" atmosphere that aids in bolstering relations between the United States and Western European nations.

Admiral H. Page Smith, Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Naval Forces, Eastern Atlantic and the Mediterranean, briefed the V.F.W. leader on Naval operations under his jurisdiction. A luncheon, attended by Commander-in-Chief Hansen, enabled him to meet with many of the officers of the Navy staff headquarters in London.

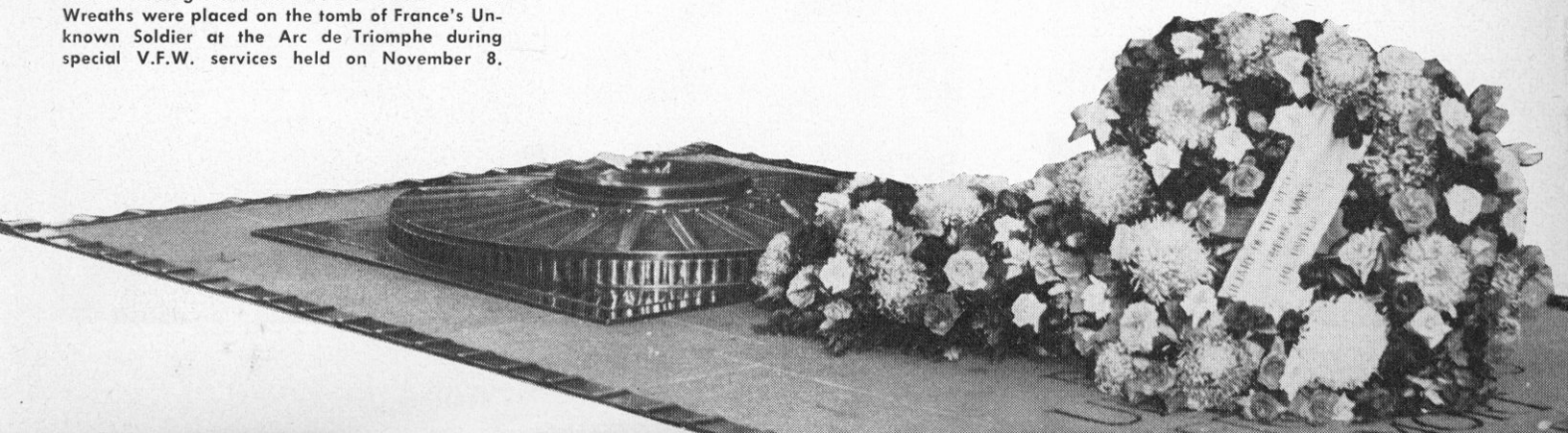
Continuing his official visits in London, Hansen met with Right Honorable

John Boyd-Carpenter, British Minister of Pensions and National Insurance, and Major General Richard Howard-Vyse, President of the British Legion.

Information presented to Commander-in-Chief Hansen by the British officials familiarized the V.F.W. leader with U.S.-British relations on a military as well as economic level.

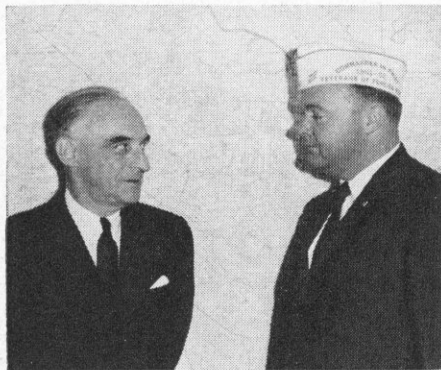
"Paris Historique", famed metropolis of historic significance, beckoned the V.F.W. group on the fifth day of travels as the flight across the English Channel returned the pilgrims to the sightseeing of Paris on Nov. 8.

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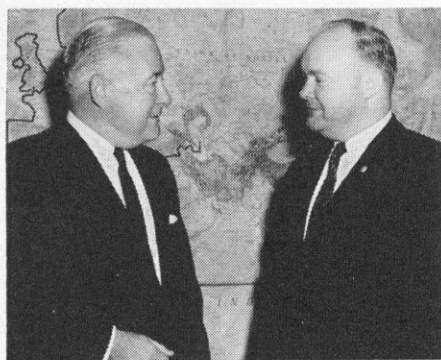




James M. Gavin, United States Ambassador to France, and Commander-in-Chief Hansen discuss the V.F.W. Pilgrimage. Ambassador Gavin stated that the trip demonstrates unity between the U.S. and France in their mutual love of freedom.



General Lucius D. Clay, special representative of President Kennedy in Berlin, exchanges views with the Commander-in-Chief concerning maintenance of a strong garrison in West Berlin. They met in conference after an East Berlin visit.



Military leaders conferred with the Commander-in-Chief at their European headquarters. ABOVE: Adm. H. Page Smith, commanding Eastern Atlantic-Mediterranean Navy units. BELOW: Maj. Gen. Albert Watson, Commandant, U.S.-Berlin zone.



During the impressive memorial services conducted on the afternoon of November 11, members of the V.F.W. Pilgrimage assembled with French residents at the U.S. Military Cemetery, just outside Paris at Suresnes. This view was taken from the speakers' platform. Units of the U.S. and French armies are in the background between rows of graves where U.S. soldiers are buried.

On this day Hansen and Miss Adamson placed V.F.W. wreaths at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier buried beneath the Arc de Triomphe. Representing France at this solemn moment was Raymond Triboulet, Minister of Veteran Affairs, and his staff personnel.

The day chosen for the impressive ceremony was November 8, a day revered in France as the anniversary of the first landing of troops in North Africa in 1942.

Lending to the grandeur of the event, a company of French soldiers, garbed in battle uniforms, appeared at the Arc de Triomphe under orders of the military governor of Paris, General Andre Demetz. A military band of the "Garde Republicaine" played stirring renditions of French and American National anthems.

Representatives of General Charles de Gaulle, the Prime Minister, the Minister

of National Defense, the Minister of French Foreign Affairs, and officers of Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, the American Embassy and the U.S. European Command attended the ceremony.

An afternoon schedule took the Commander-in-Chief, the National President of the Ladies Auxiliary, and other V.F.W. members to a reception at the home of Andre Despas. It was at this official reception at the Despas mansion in Paris where Minister for Veterans Affairs Triboulet spoke. He paid special tribute to the V.F.W. leader, the Auxiliary's National President and the V.F.W. at large.

On that "8th of November" occasion, Triboulet said: "I am happy that a number of V.F.W. pilgrims are in Paris today. They are here to pay homage to the American war dead buried in cemeteries in France. And, they are here for

Mayor Willy Brandt, stalwart leader of West Berlin's residents, greeted the V.F.W. travelers at the city hall. Mayor Brandt (extreme right) told the group that West Berliners "are ready to fight to the last man to retain their freedom." The V.F.W. leader listens attentively to Brandt's talk.





Participating in Nov. 11 memorial services at Suresnes were, from left, Rev. J. J. Murphy, Gen. Charles D. Palmer, U.S.-European Command; Senior Vice Commander Clarence Glover, Post 605, Paris; U.S. Ambassador James M. Gavin, Gen. Hugh Stockwell, NATO Deputy Commander; Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen and Commander Leon G. Turrou, Post 605, who set up Paris itinerary.

the further reason to strengthen the perpetuation of the friendly ties between our two nations.

"To the national Commander-in-Chief of this great V.F.W. organization and the pilgrims who are participating in this ceremony, I wish to express in the name of the French government, a hearty welcome to our country," Triboulet concluded.

The following day, the V.F.W. group was ushered into Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe, where General Lauris Norstad, Supreme Commander, commended the V.F.W. and Ladies Auxiliary on their energetic work to strengthen U. S. national defense. General Norstad, who is a member of V.F.W. Paris Post 605, gave a special military briefing to the touring Americans. Following the military appraisal, General Norstad was host at a reception given the pilgrims by SHAPE personnel.

On the afternoon of Nov. 9, French Minister Triboulet awarded Commander-in-Chief Hansen with the medal of "Merite Combattant", a high French decoration given for exceptional meritorious service in behalf of the Allied cause. After receiving his award, the V.F.W. leader presented his organization's Distinguished Service Medal to Mr. Triboulet.

The Commander-in-Chief's Gold Medals were presented to Robert-Andre Vivien and Jacques Morette-Bourney, in recognition of exceptional service during World War II. These awards were designated originally by Past Commander-in-Chief Ted C. Connell and were bestowed upon the French officers by the present V.F.W. leader, acting in the absence of Past Commander-in-Chief Connell. Following the awards' presentations, French Minister Triboulet was

(Continued on page 36)

Wreaths were placed at Suresnes cemetery by Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen and National Auxiliary President Beulah A. Adamson. Four Cub scouts, children of U.S. military personnel stationed in the Paris area, served among the honor guard during the U.S. Military cemetery service.



Jacques Morrett-Bourney, a representative of the French government, receives a V.F.W. medal from Commander-in-Chief Hansen during Paris festivities. The special service award had been designated by Past Commander-in-Chief T. C. Connell.



During a ceremony at the Invalides, where Napoleon is buried, Robert Andre, Deputy to the Minister for French War Veterans, receives the V.F.W. Gold Medal of Merit and citation from Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen.



Commander-in-Chief Hansen received awards in Paris. ABOVE: Raymond Triboulet, Minister of Veterans Affairs, presents the Merite Combattant medal. BELOW: Commander Leon Turrou, Post 605, presents Post 605 award to Hansen.



More Members - A Vital Necessity!

By Robert E. Hansen
Commander-in-Chief, V.F.W.

EVER SINCE our National Convention in Miami Beach, where you accorded me the great honor of serving as your Commander-in-Chief, I have applied myself to but one principal aim—to do all I can possibly do to make the Veterans of Foreign Wars a bigger and better organization. That will continue to be my aim in all the years ahead.

Of course I know, as you do, that we already have a fine and wonderful organization—the best in the country. We could certainly boast of our record of accomplishments and point with justifiable pride to our great program of service to the nation and the nation's veterans. No one could question our sincerity of purpose in supporting the principles of democracy and the American way of life.

But it is not enough to be satisfied with ourselves; not enough for us to bask in the complacency of a job well done. This could be a most dangerous attitude because the organization that ceases to grow and progress is doomed to decline and possible disaster. Our future strength lies in our ability to increase our effectiveness in representing this country's veteran population. This means that the V.F.W. must continue to grow in numbers—every month, every year. For this reason I want to take this opportunity to stress some pertinent facts about our current membership program.

At this time, I am pleased to say, we are well ahead—approximately 45,000 members ahead—of our membership strength at the same date last year. You may find the current percentage figures in the report of the Director of Membership elsewhere in this issue of "V.F.W. Magazine".

I am particularly happy about the success of the new membership project which we developed for this year—the "Commander-in-Chief's Quota Busters Contest." In this contest the various Departments are assigned individual quotas to be met on four given dates ending May 31, 1962. We are now approaching the end of the second or "Washington Conference" phase of this contest which will be Jan. 26, 1962. To qualify for cash awards in this phase of the contest, Departments must have 75 per cent of their 1961 membership reported for 1962. Membership transmittals must be received at National Headquarters and postmarked no later than Jan. 26.

In the first phase of the "Quota Busters" contest, which ended Nov. 30, 1961, a total of 14 Departments qualified for cash awards by attaining 50 per cent of their 1961 membership by the deadline date. These were the Departments of Louisiana, Arizona, Nebraska, Indiana, District of Columbia, Georgia, Connecticut, Illinois, South Dakota, Minnesota, Alabama, Kansas, Tennessee and Washington.

In planning the first three phases of this contest, Departments were grouped in each of our seven membership divisions according to their total membership strength last year. The cash awards are graduated on the scale of the division number. However, in the last phase of this contest, ending May

31, 1962, all Departments are assigned individual membership quotas and all will be competing against their own previous membership records for varying amounts of cash prizes. There is no seven division breakdown in this phase. It is a stimulating contest, and in terms of cash profit for your Department, well worth the efforts undertaken.

I am happy to see such keen competition in the many contests, on all levels of the organization, that make up our 1962 membership program. Leaders who qualify for positions on our All-American Teams of Post, District and Department Commanders, and places on All-State Teams of Post Commanders and Post Quartermasters, will have indeed worked very hard this year. I consider a position on one of these teams one of the greatest honors a V.F.W. member can attain. It is a sure indication of leadership ability of the highest quality.

The enthusiasm being shown in the field is demonstrated by the "Flying Squadron" membership drive teams operating in many of our Departments. These are patterned after the campaign program carried on by myself and the other National officers this last fall on a country wide basis. These meetings with groups of Post, District, County and Department officers have proven most effective in stimulating our membership efforts to new heights.

Also at this time, I would like to say a few words about the importance of our life membership program as a method of perpetuating our overall strength. I urge all of you who can possibly do so to take advantage of the prestige and honor to be obtained by signing up as a life member of your Post—and getting other members to follow your example. A substantial nucleus of life members is the best insurance policy your Post can have to guarantee its future prominence in the community.

On the inside front cover of this issue of "V.F.W. Magazine" you will find a special feature that will help you start the new year off right by signing up a member for the V.F.W. Here are the facts that should convince any eligible veteran that he is passing up the chance of his lifetime by failing to join a V.F.W. Post. Cut out the handy application blank and get that new member now!

In conclusion I want only to say this: I am deeply grateful to you all for your recruiting efforts that have led to such a promising start for this membership year. My thanks goes to each officer and member who is devoting himself so sincerely to the work necessary to make this one of the greatest years in the history of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Your time and talents are devoted to a cause that should be an incentive for every eligible veteran to join with us in helping to build a better America and take a stronger stand against those enemies seeking to shut out freedom in the world.

Quoting our membership slogan for the year I want to say to you again, "Think Big, Act Big and Grow Big for a Bigger and Better V.F.W."

V.F.W. KEY FOR

By OMAR
Executive Director,

A STAR-STUDDED program of ten key V.F.W. objectives for the coming year, based upon the resolutions adopted at the 1961 National Convention in Miami Beach, Fla., was hammered out by three important V.F.W. national committees during a meeting in Washington, D.C., Dec. 9-10. They were the National Legislative Committee, headed by Past National Council Member E. K. Collins, Laurel, Miss.; the National Security Committee, with Past Commander-in-Chief Merton B. Tice, Mitchell, S. Dak., as chairman, and the National Civil Defense Committee, chaired by Past Commander-in-Chief Charles C. Ralls, Seattle, Wash.

Under the guidance of the two top chair officers, Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen, South St. Paul, Minn., and Senior vice Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry, Glendora, Calif., and aided by Inspector General Roy E. Frazier, Jr., Centralia, Ill., the committees met in two joint sessions and in two separate sessions each to formulate the program that will stress policies of the organization in regard to veteran legislation and national and international affairs.

Individual opinions were fully aired in the meetings, with serious attention given to all topics considered by the members to be of the utmost importance in shaping the V.F.W. program. In setting up a list of 10 key objectives for the organization, Commander-in-Chief Hansen and the committee chairmen were quick to point out that this in no way means that the scores of other resolutions adopted at the National Convention will be neglected.



• The key objectives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars for 1962 as selected from resolutions adopted by delegates to the 1961 National Convention in Miami Beach. (Priority objectives are starred).

★ Establish a Veterans Affairs Committee in the U.S. Senate

★ Withdrawal of the United States from the United Nations if Red China is admitted

★ Full support of an effective Civil Defense program

Maintain the freedom of the people of West Berlin at all costs

OBJECTIVES

1962

B. KETCHUM

V.F.W. Washington Office

After much debate, the 10 primary current objectives of the V.F.W., as set forth below, were approved.

Highlights of the two-day gathering were briefings given the committeemen by two officers of high position in the Department of Defense. General Williston B. Palmer, Director of Military Assistance for the Department of Defense, discussed the subject of U.S. military aid to foreign nations, while Maj. Gen. Ralph A. Palladino, Executive Director of the Military Reserve Policy Board, brought the V.F.W. members up to date on the current status of the Reserve program, with some estimates as to future operations.

Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, former Chief of Naval Operations, attended the Committee meetings and served as consultant to the Commander-in-Chief and the National Security Committee. Serving as consultants to the Civil Defense Committee were: Maj. Gen. Edward F. Griffin, Civil Defense Director for North Carolina; Wellington Rupp, Chairman of Mayor's Civil Defense Advisory Committee in Seattle, and Hamilton Darling, Liaison Representative for the Civil Defense Division of the Department of Defense.

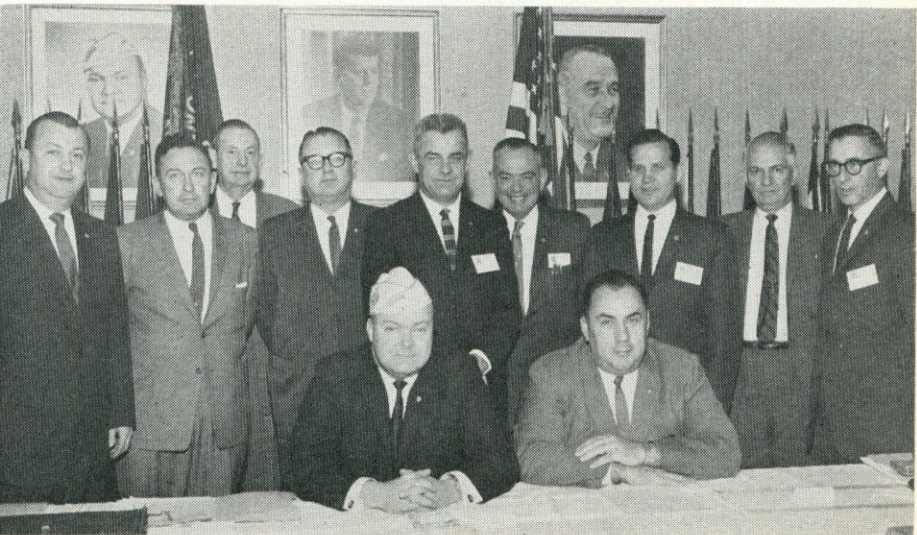
In a closing statement, Commander-in-Chief Hansen congratulated the Committees for their diligence and wise selection of the key objectives and expressed his appreciation to the members for their service to the Veterans of Foreign Wars. The V.F.W. leader assured the committee members that he and his staff would vigorously push the key objectives, as well as the entire V.F.W. national program.



Meeting in Washington, D.C., Dec. 9-10, to aid in formulating the 1962 key objectives of the Veterans of Foreign Wars were these members of the V.F.W. National Security Committee pictured with Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen and Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry (seated left and right). Standing, left to right, are Past Commander-in-Chief Merton B. Tice, Chairman; Fred Mancusco, Guy J. Swope, Admiral Arleigh A. Burke, (Ret.) former Chief of Naval Operations who served as consultant to the committee; Brig. General James D. Hittle, USMC (Ret.), Director, V.F.W. National Security and Foreign Affairs; Rear Admiral Harley Cope, USN (Ret.)



Members of the V.F.W. National Legislative Committee meet in Washington, D.C., to help determine V.F.W. key objectives for 1962. Standing behind Commander-in-Chief Hansen and Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Gentry are, left to right, Theodore H. Little, Edmund C. Tiemann, David C. Doten, E. Spencer Walton, E. K. Collins, Chairman; Francis W. Stover, Director, V.F.W. National Legislative Service; Paul A. Harmon, Mrs. Anne Garvey, Legislative Director, V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary; Edward J. Zamm, Leonard E. Friedlander, Arthur H. Tyrone.



Members of the V.F.W. Civil Defense Committee with their consultants are pictured at the meeting in Washington, D.C., where they aided in formulating V.F.W. key objectives for 1962. Seated are Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen (left) and Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry. Standing, left to right, are Edmund A. Zabel, V.F.W. Civil Defense Director; V.F.W. Inspector General Roy E. Frazier, Jr.; Maj. General Edward F. Griffin, AUS (Ret.), Civil Defense Director of North Carolina, who served as a committee consultant; Lyle Kinvig, Past Commander-in-Chief Charles C. Ralls, Chairman; Edward J. Brennan, Claude U. Shipley, Wellington Rupp, Chairman of the Mayor's Advisory Committee, Seattle, Wash., also serving as a committee consultant; John P. Verges.

★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Maintain the world's most powerful balanced Armed Forces

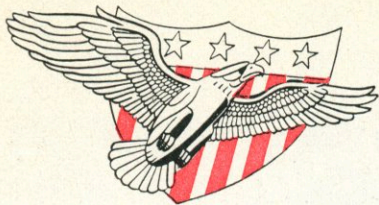
Vigorously support the Joint Chiefs of Staff system

Strict enforcement of the Monroe Doctrine

Increase in compensation for the service disabled

Separate pension program for World War I veterans and liberalization of Veterans' Pension Act of 1959

Additional veteran hospital facilities, including provision for long term care.



Final Deadline Near in Voice of Democracy 1962 Contest

● As the 1962 V.F.W. Voice of Democracy Contest enters the final phases preparatory to the national judging, all Post and District Commanders are reminded to fill out the contest questionnaires mailed them and return the information to Voice of Democracy Contest, V.F.W. National Headquarters, Broadway at 34th St., Kansas City 11, Mo.

"These questionnaires are necessary to provide us with a complete, accurate total of students and high schools in this year's competition," Paul J. Loney, National Voice of Democracy Director, said.

The next deadline leading to the national competition is January 15, when winning tapes from all District or countywide contests must be in the hands of the Department Voice of Democracy Chairman.

Following selection of winners on the Department levels, the deadline of January 25 has been established for receipt of tapes at the National Voice of Democracy Contest Headquarters, V.F.W. Memorial Building, 200 Maryland Avenue, N.E., Washington 2, D.C.

Students are competing for cash scholarships amounting to \$1,500, for first place; \$1,000 for second; \$750 for third and \$400 for fourth place.

In addition, each state winner will be the guest of the V.F.W. at the annual V.F.W. Congressional Banquet, Feb. 6, 1962, in Washington. The winners will be conducted also on a tour of the nation's capital.

Loney said that based on advance returns of the questionnaires it is expected that as many as 150,000 students will be participating in this event in the 51 Departments entered in the competition.

Across the nation, 28,000 schools have been contacted in addition to almost 10,000 V.F.W. Posts. Competition is open to 10th, 11th and 12th grade students. The project has the endorsement of the U.S. Office of Education.

Entrants are competing for top awards to be based on the theme "What Freedom Means To Me." Scripts are to represent the students' original and personal experiences.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Annual Founders Day Observance By Post 1, Denver, Colo.

ON SUNDAY, Dec. 3, members of John S. Stewart Post 1, Denver, Colo., held their annual Founders Day observance honoring those veterans who formed the Post in 1899. Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen, South St. Paul, Minn., was guest of honor and principal speaker at the gala banquet which was the highlight of the celebration.

Present at the banquet were four of the nine surviving founders of Post 1. They were Verner W. Campbell, Benjamin M. Lloyd, William S. Watson and Walter W. Weber, all of Denver. The founders unable to attend were Harry A. Arenz, Chester Brinkley, Joseph A. Demeke and Harry M. Osborne, all of California, and Russell H. Ingersoll, of Denver.

Named for Capt. John S. Stewart, who was killed in action in the Spanish-American War, Post 1 is recognized as the "oldest V.F.W. Post in continuous existence."

The many distinguished guests at the banquet were introduced by Post Commander Donald A. Nikkel, serving as Master of Ceremonies.

In his address, Commander-in-Chief Hansen dwelt mainly upon the challenge of communism and the necessity for free people to "meet and defeat the Red menace wherever it rears its ugly head."

Having only recently returned from Europe, where he headed a group of V.F.W. and Auxiliary members participating in the V.F.W. Pilgrimage to Europe, the V.F.W. leader was able to give a first-hand report of his impressions of the tense situation existing between free Europe and the Communist block.

"There is no remorse, no complaining among our gallant soldiers over there," he said. "If we here at home were as ready to face up to the challenge of Communist aggression as are the men of the West Berlin command, we would need not fear for the future."

Commander-in-Chief Hansen told his audience that military might will provide our only possible deterrent to a world conflict.

"Certainly we must have military preparedness," he said, "However, even this

THE WHITE HOUSE WASHINGTON

To the Men and Women Veterans
of Our Armed Forces:

For uncounted millions, Christmas expresses the deepest hopes for a world of peace where love rather than mistrust will flourish between neighbors.

America's veterans know only too well the frightful cost of war. This Nation, and indeed the world, are fortunate in these troubled days to have such a body of citizens fully committed to seeking the path to a more peaceful world. I am confident that we will find that path.

Mrs. Kennedy and I wish all of you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

John F. Kennedy
President of the United States

will not suffice unless we possess an aroused and quickened spirit of patriotism and a stern determination to insist that the rights of this country and those of the free world are respected.

"In effecting such formidable spiritual unity, I believe that we must adhere to the following program:

"First, to place greater stress on the knowledge of American history and an understanding of the fundamental principles that have made our country great.

"Second, to accelerate the program now underway to thoroughly acquaint members of the Armed forces with the basic tenants of Americanism.

"Third, to beseech our people to worship in the houses of their faiths, and thus demonstrate a spiritual unity in the struggle against Godless communism."

Listed among the distinguished guests who attended the banquet were the following:

U.S. Senator John Carroll, Colorado; U.S. Senator Gordon Allott, Colorado; U.S. Representative Byron Rogers, Colorado; Governor Stephen L. R. McNichols, Mayor Dick Battenon, Denver; Dr. Paul M. Ire-



Guests of honor at the annual Founders Day banquet given by John S. Stewart Post 1, Denver, Colo., included Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen and four of the nine surviving founders of the Post. Left to right: Post Commander Donald A. Nikkel, Verner W. Campbell, founder; Commander-in-Chief Hansen, Benjamin M. Lloyd, William S. Watson and Walter W. Weber, founders.

land, Manager, Veterans Administration Hospital, Denver; E. R. Benke, Manager, Veterans Administration, Colorado; Maj. Gen. Carl W. Temple, Commander, Fitzsimons Army Hospital; Brig. Gen. Charles H. Anderson, Commander, Lowry Air Force Base; Brig. Gen. Paul W. Scheidecker, Air Force Finance Center; Brig. Gen. J. L. Riley, Air Reserve Records Center; Capt. Kenneth W. Howell, U.S. Marine Reserves; Comdr. H. K. Hickman, U.S. Navy Reserve.

V.F.W. and Auxiliary guests included Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen, National Auxiliary President Beulah A. Adamson, Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry, Junior Vice Commander-in-Chief Joseph J. Lombardo, Quartermaster General Robert B. Handy, Jr., Adjutant General Julian Dickenson, National Chief of Staff Charles E. Kinney, Inspector General Roy E. Frazier, Jr., Public Relations Director John L. Smith, Past Commander-in-Chief Ray Brannaman, Supreme Commander John W. Burnett, Military Order of the Cootie; Supreme President Dorothy Briner, Ladies Auxiliary to the Military Order of the Cootie; Dept. of Colorado Commander William E. Davis, Dept. of Colorado Auxiliary President Marguerite Foster.

Former Field Representative To High City Position

MILTON F. AVIS, Kansas City, Mo., a former field representative for *V.F.W. Magazine*, was recently named city treasurer of Kansas City. Avis joined the staff of the National Headquarters of the Veterans of Foreign Wars in 1957.

A Navy veteran of World War II, Avis is a member of Post 4092, Kansas City, Mo. He is active in both the V.F.W. and the Military Order of the Cootie.

In his five years as a *V.F.W. Magazine* field representative, Avis personally met and gained the friendship of thousands of V.F.W. members. His duties were to explain how *V.F.W. Magazine* strives to stimulate better attendance at Post meetings and increased patronage of Post clubs. At the same time, he pointed out how cooperation on the Post level can help to produce a magazine that will be of increased value to the V.F.W. member.

Wear Your V.F.W. Emblem! HERE'S WHAT IT MEANS TO OTHERS

PROOF of your unselfish loyalty to the nation's disabled and needy veterans.

PROOF of your sympathy for the widows and orphans of veterans.

PROOF of your support of V.F.W. demands for maximum national security measures.

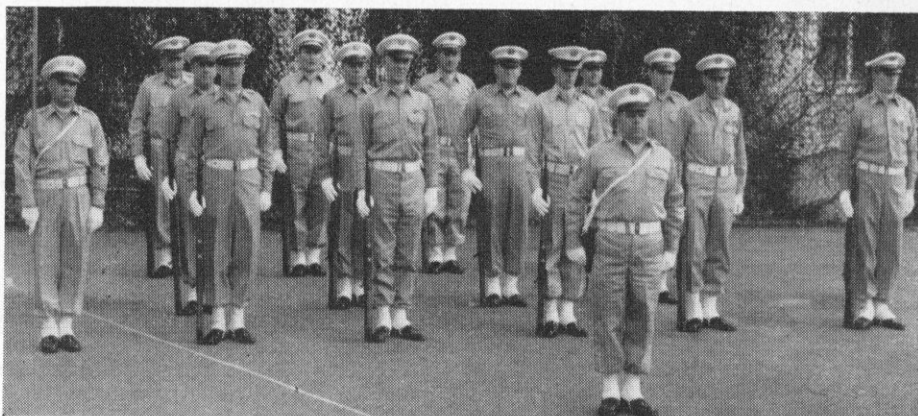
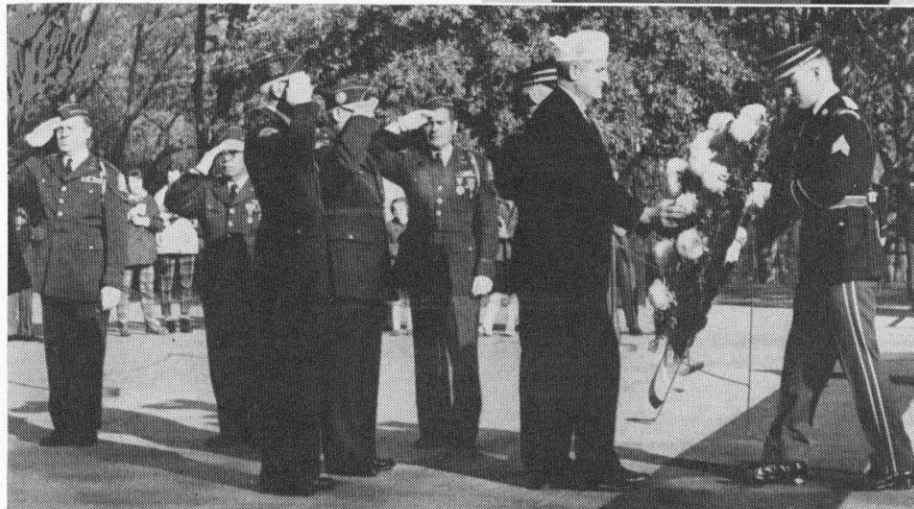
PROOF that you endorse V.F.W. projects dedicated to the promotion of Americanism.

PROOF of your contempt of communism and all other subversive doctrines.

PROOF that you approve V.F.W. youth activity programs designed to combat juvenile delinquency.

PROOF that you agree with the V.F.W. that service to the communities is good citizenship in action.

V.F.W. Chief of Staff Charles E. Kinney, Newark, N.J., represented Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen at the annual Veterans Day program at Arlington National Cemetery. Principal speaker on the occasion was President John F. Kennedy, pictured at the rostrum (right) addressing the thousands who came to pay tribute to the nation's war dead. In the photo below Chief of Staff Kinney is pictured placing a V.F.W. wreath at the Tomb of the Unknowns in Arlington National Cemetery. Members of the V.F.W. Honor Guard, Washington, D.C., stand at salute. Senior Vice Commander-in-Chief Byron B. Gentry represented the national organization in the Veterans Day observance held in Pittsburgh, Pa. This was one of several regional Veterans Day programs that are held each year under the auspices of the Veterans Day National Committee which was established in 1954.



The drill team of Post 1758, Dorchester, Mass., is pictured during one of its recent appearances in a community parade. The combination drill team and firing squad is under direction of E. C. Collings, extreme right. It is commanded by M/Sgt. George L. Murray, shown in the foreground.



This beautiful new home of Post 1146, St. Clair Shores, Mich., was recently dedicated with impressive ceremonies. The structure, located on Lake St. Clair, represents an investment of \$100,000. In addition to Post and Auxiliary activities it is being used for community events throughout the year.

Plans Underway for '62 National Convention in Minneapolis

(Continued from page 9)

pate in the military parade and musical competitions. These events are outstanding features of V.F.W. conventions.

William Nunn, University of Minnesota administrative staff member, has been assisting in preliminary inspections of campus facilities. He has assured the organization that University officials will assist in every way possible to make this year's Million Dollar Pageant of Drums one of the most outstanding events in V.F.W. history.

Anton J. Schlechta, Post 6827, St. Petersburg, Fla., has been reappointed as chairman of the colorful musical spectacle, a convention highlight for both V.F.W. members and the public.

Slechta is presently gathering data pertaining to housing accommodations, numbers of units and personnel, arrival and departure dates and food requirements.

Present plans are to conduct all preliminary Pageant contests at facilities provided on the University of Minnesota campus.

Housing for the entire V.F.W. assemblage in the convention city will be under the direction of the V.F.W. Housing Bureau, working in conjunction with the National Convention Corporation. Lists of participating hotels are being compiled with rates and available rooms.

Maps of the Twin Cities are being prepared, showing locations of Headquarters hotels in relation to the location of the Civic Auditorium where some of the convention events will take place.

Grobsmith said that hotel reservation forms will soon be mailed to each Department Headquarters. He added that all hotels in Minneapolis have agreed to work in close cooperation with the housing committee in the assignment of hotels to the various Departments.

Departments will be assigned hotels on the basis of the Department standing in the National Membership rating. Department officers are advised not to arrange separate hotel reservations in violation of the membership basis agreement.

Minneapolis' huge Civic Auditorium will probably be the site of the traditional Memorial Service and the joint opening session. The Auditorium also appears to be the most suitable location for the annual Bierstube party, while one section of the building will be used for the party for junior musical and uniformed participants.

Accommodations at the Leamington Hotel are expected to meet requirements for the V.F.W. business sessions and the Distinguished Guests Banquet. The Leamington's great Hall of States can accommodate 3,000 persons for assemblies and 2,000 persons for banquets. Registration facilities, displays and exhibits, the National Headquarters administrative office and committee meeting and briefing rooms will also be in the Hotel Leamington.

The V.F.W. Convention opens in Minneapolis just prior to the annual Aquatennial Parade. Many of the beautiful floats from this civic event will be available to V.F.W. Departments, Districts, Posts or individuals at reasonable cost.

"The use of many of these beautiful floats would add tremendously to the beauty and pageantry of the military parade as they supplement floats prepared by V.F.W. units," Director Grobsmith said. He stated that V.F.W. Parade Chairman William Halsey is assembling information on the availability of these Aquatennial floats and will forward the information to all Department Headquarters.

Convention headquarters will be set up in the Hotel Leamington about May 1. However, advance registrations may be mailed immediately to Hotel Leamington and they will be processed in readiness for the convention opening.

Accompanying this article is a coupon which members may use to register in advance for the 63rd annual convention. Act now. Fill out the coupon on page 9 and mail as directed.

[The End]

MEMBERSHIP

V.F.W. Chief Appoints New Aides-de-Camp

THE FOLLOWING V.F.W. members have distinguished themselves by winning appointments as National Aides-de-Camp, Recruiting Class, during the month of November.

To be eligible for this award, a member must collect the 1962 dues of at least 50 new and/or reinstated members.

The new appointments are as follows: Joseph J. Montana, Post 3632, Tempe, Ariz.; Dan R. Wueschinski, Post 3715, Phoenix, Ariz.; Raymond J. Birenbaum, Post 4903, Tucson, Ariz.; Talmage H. Williams, Post 4903, Tucson, Ariz.; Joseph W. Tarantino, Post 4903, Tucson, Ariz.; Melville J. Howard, Post 875, W. Los Angeles, Calif.; Samuel H. Mauk, Post 875, W. Los Angeles, Calif.; Harold Villers, Post 3106, Leesville, La.; Don Martin, Post 4420, Manistique, Mich.; Les Klingler, Post 5587, Holly, Mich.; H. R. Boyd, Post 3373, Pascagoula, Miss.; James V. Falbo, Post 4591, Woodridge, N. J.; T. M. Fullerton, Post 3299, Portales, N. M.; Sam H. Choate, Post 4876, Atlas, Okla.; James M. Wood, Post 9539, Spartanburg, S. C.; Daniel Reyna, Post 6719, Raymondville, Tex.

Western Army Moves to Front in Conference Contest

THE SOUTHERN conference army, which took the initial lead at the start of the 1961-62 membership contest in October, dropped back to third place in November.

Now holding the lead is the Western Army with a score of 46.30 per cent. In second place is the Big Ten Army which is coming up fast with a score of 46.06 per cent. The rating for the Southern Army is 45.35 per cent, while the last place Eastern Army has 36.56 per cent.

The standings of the Armies are based on per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters and postmarked through Nov. 30, 1961.

NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States

General Orders No. 4

1961-62 Series

1. The following appointments are hereby announced:

National Credentials Committee:

James Buttram, Chairman, Post 5146, Athens, Tennessee
Elwood B. Rickards, Post 7234, Ocean View, Delaware
James Willis, Post 534, Joplin, Missouri
Darold D. DeCoe, Post 67, Sacramento, California
Juston M. Morrow, Post 5072, Rotan, Texas
James H. Kennedy, Post 6690, Mendota, Minnesota
John Chambers, Post 2755, Redfield, South Dakota
Gene Brown, Post 4625, Alma, Georgia
Clyde Blackburn, Post 6752, Leoti, Kansas
Raymond J. McDonald, Post 7917, Floral Park, New York

National Security Committee:

Leon Buer, Post 3240, Grand Rapids, Michigan

National Civil Defense Committee:

J. Pershing Robinson, Post 3155, Winnsboro, Louisiana
Claude Shipley, Post 9211, Reno, Nevada
John P. Verges, Post 916, Peace Dale, Rhode Island

National Safety Committee:

Russell Haase, Chairman, Post 3979, Cloquet, Minnesota

2. Announcement is made of the consolidation of Turner-Hudson Post No. 7613, Pelham, Georgia, and Freeman-Worsham Post No. 9710, Camilla, Georgia, the consolidated Post to be known as Turner-Freeman Post No. 9710, Camilla, Georgia.
3. Announcement is made of the change of location of Lawrence A. Sims Post No. 3952 from Walled Lake, Michigan to Wixom-Walled Lake, Michigan, in accordance with Section 206 of the National By-Laws.
4. Announcement is made of the change of name and location of Brook Park Post No. 3345, Berea-Brook Park Village, Ohio, to Strongsville Post No. 3345, Strongsville, Ohio, in accordance with Sections 206 and 208 of the National By-Laws.
5. Announcement is hereby made of the authorization of charters to the following Posts:
No. 482, Forestville, Md.
No. 2197, Benton Station, Me.
No. 5204, Forest City, N.C.
No. 7024, Belvidere, S. Dak.
No. 7173, Oakdale, L.I., N.Y.
No. 7443, Preston, Va.
No. 8200, Des Moines, Iowa
No. 8374, East Rutherford, N.J.
No. 8819, North Billerica, Mass.
No. 9939, Candler, N.C.

Official:

JULIAN DICKENSON
Adjutant General

By Command of:

ROBERT E. HANSEN
Commander-in-Chief

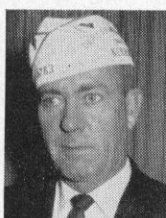
COMMANDERS OF THE MONTH



Arthur J. Muller
ILLINOIS



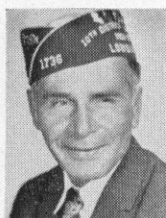
Audie W. Rainbolt
INDIANA



Merton Olson
NEBRASKA



James L. Lusby
CONNECTICUT



Joseph E. Nicotre
LOUISIANA



Kenton E. Scott
ARIZONA



Robert E. Sargent
DIST. OF COLUMBIA

• In the second Commander-of-the-Month competition of the membership year, all the first time winners except one retained their titles. Commander Reeve N. Hughes, Div. IV, Alabama, lost his position to Commander James L. Lusby, Connecticut.

Those Commanders whose Departments lead in membership each month in each of the seven membership divisions are designated Commanders-of-the-Month. The November winners, with their total number of wins, are as follows:

Arthur J. Muller, Div. I, Ill. (2); Audie W. Rainbolt, Div. II, Ind. (2); Merton Olson, Div. III, Nebr. (2); James Lusby, Div. IV, Conn. (1); Joseph E. Nicotre, Div. V, La. (2); Kenton E. Scott, Div. VI, Ariz. (2); Robert E. Sargent, Div. VII, Dist. of Col. (2).

Departments with a 1961 membership of less than 2,000 members as of Dec. 31, 1961, are not eligible for this contest.

POSTS OF 1,000 OR MORE MEMBERS

As of Nov. 30, 1961

| | | | | | |
|------|---------------------------|-------|------|------------------------|-------|
| 668 | Birmingham, Alabama | 1,110 | 4848 | Chattanooga, Tennessee | 1,060 |
| 2702 | Huntsville, Alabama | 1,103 | 3382 | Kingsport, Tennessee | 1,056 |
| 2825 | Chicago Heights, Illinois | 1,065 | 3851 | Carmi, Illinois | 1,036 |
| 112 | Wichita, Kansas | 1,061 | 1990 | Greenville, Tennessee | 1,020 |

When a Post attains a total of 1,000 or more members for 1962 it will be added to this list

SEVEN DIVISION CONTEST

• Standings are based on 1962 per capita tax transmittals received at National Headquarters and postmarked through Nov. 30, 1961.

DIVISION I (Departments over 45,000)

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 1. Illinois | 52.24 |
| 2. Minnesota | 51.78 |
| 3. California | 45.15 |
| 4. New York | 37.89 |
| 5. Michigan | 37.30 |
| 6. Ohio | 37.10 |
| 7. Pennsylvania | 36.45 |

DIVISION II (Departments between 30,000 and 45,000)

| | |
|------------------|-------|
| 1. Indiana | 55.50 |
| 2. Kansas | 51.43 |
| 3. Texas | 44.02 |
| 4. New Jersey | 38.12 |
| 5. Massachusetts | 29.75 |

DIVISION III (Departments between 20,000 and 30,000)

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| 1. Nebraska | 55.73 |
| 2. Georgia | 52.29 |
| 3. Tennessee | 50.11 |
| 4. Missouri | 48.84 |
| 5. Iowa | 47.37 |
| 6. Wisconsin | 44.12 |

DIVISION IV (Departments between 15,000 and 20,000)

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1. Connecticut | 52.24 |
| 2. Alabama | 51.60 |
| 3. Washington | 50.03 |
| 4. West Virginia | 43.12 |
| 5. Mississippi | 42.06 |
| 6. Kentucky | 38.44 |
| 7. North Carolina | 31.75 |

DIVISION V (Departments between 10,000 and 15,000)

| | |
|-----------------|-------|
| 1. Louisiana | 62.34 |
| 2. South Dakota | 52.02 |
| 3. Colorado | 45.77 |
| 4. Florida | 44.17 |
| 5. Virginia | 43.50 |
| 6. Oklahoma | 37.09 |
| 7. Maryland | 34.59 |

DIVISION VI (Departments between 5,000 and 10,000)

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| 1. Arizona | 57.17 |
| 2. Oregon | 45.51 |
| 3. North Dakota | 45.34 |
| 4. Wyoming | 41.95 |
| 5. New Mexico | 40.31 |
| 6. South Carolina | 38.04 |
| 7. Rhode Island | 37.86 |
| 8. Maine | 36.13 |
| 9. Montana | 36.03 |
| 10. New Hampshire | 33.15 |
| 11. Arkansas | 31.81 |

DIVISION VII (Departments under 5,000)

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| 1. District of Columbia | 54.86 |
| 2. Vermont | 40.51 |
| 3. Utah | 38.77 |
| 4. Idaho | 37.33 |
| 5. Nevada | 36.76 |
| 6. Hawaii | 30.25 |
| 7. Canal Zone | 29.08 |
| 8. Alaska | 26.41 |
| 9. Delaware | 15.13 |

ORDER OF PARADE

• The positions that Departments will occupy in the parade at the 1962 National Convention will be determined by their membership standing on June 30, 1962. These standings will be determined on the basis of their 1962 membership strength, as compared to their membership strength on Dec. 31, 1961. The standings listed below are based on per capita tax transmittals received at the National Headquarters and postmarked through Nov. 30, 1961.

| | | | |
|-------------------------|-------|--------------------|-------|
| 1. Louisiana | 62.34 | 27. Wyoming | 41.95 |
| 2. Arizona | 57.17 | 28. Vermont | 40.51 |
| 3. Nebraska | 55.73 | 29. New Mexico | 40.31 |
| 4. Indiana | 55.50 | 30. Utah | 38.77 |
| 5. District of Columbia | 54.86 | 31. Kentucky | 38.44 |
| 6. Georgia | 52.29 | 32. New Jersey | 38.12 |
| (7. Connecticut (tie) | 52.24 | 33. South Carolina | 38.04 |
| (7. Illinois (tie) | 52.24 | 34. New York | 37.89 |
| 9. South Dakota | 52.02 | 35. Rhode Island | 37.86 |
| 10. Minnesota | 51.78 | 36. Idaho | 37.33 |
| 11. Alabama | 51.60 | 37. Michigan | 37.30 |
| 12. Kansas | 51.43 | 38. Ohio | 37.10 |
| 13. Tennessee | 50.11 | 39. Oklahoma | 37.09 |
| 14. Washington | 50.03 | 40. Nevada | 36.76 |
| 15. Missouri | 48.84 | 41. Pennsylvania | 36.45 |
| 16. Iowa | 47.37 | 42. Maine | 36.13 |
| 17. Colorado | 45.77 | 43. Montana | 36.03 |
| 18. Oregon | 45.51 | 44. Maryland | 34.59 |
| 19. North Dakota | 45.34 | 45. New Hampshire | 33.15 |
| 20. California | 45.15 | 46. Arkansas | 31.81 |
| 21. Florida | 44.17 | 47. North Carolina | 31.75 |
| 22. Wisconsin | 44.12 | 48. Hawaii | 30.25 |
| 23. Texas | 44.02 | 49. Massachusetts | 29.75 |
| 24. Virginia | 43.50 | 50. Canal Zone | 29.08 |
| 25. West Virginia | 43.12 | 51. Alaska | 26.41 |
| 26. Mississippi | 42.06 | 52. Delaware | 15.13 |

A Long Distance Gift for the National Home



● On a recent visit to V.F.W. National Headquarters, Kansas City, Mo., while enroute to a temporary Army assignment in Austin, Tex., M/Sgt. Daniel W. Henderson, who serves as Adjutant of Post 9723, Goekue, Okinawa, performed a happy task. He gave a check for \$7,000 to benefit the boys and girls at the V.F.W. National Home, Eaton Rapids, Mich.

Henderson (right) is shown here presenting the check, in behalf of Post 9723, to Quartermaster General R. B. Handy, Jr. The money will be used to purchase a school bus for the children at the Home.

The Army sergeant, who will return to Okinawa next spring, said that his Post just has a soft spot for kids. "We are always doing something for the orphan children and the children of our own Post members on Okinawa—parties, contributions, etc," he said. "A few years ago we got a write-up in *V.F.W. Magazine* for our 'Half-Way Home Project'. This was a temporary shelter and care center for Okinawa orphan children awaiting adoption by American families stationed on Okinawa."

Sergeant Henderson said that Post 9723 is planning the dedication of its new \$250,000 Post home. The event will take place in the near future.

NATIONAL HOME

DISTINGUISHED GUESTS: V.F.W. Judge Advocate General John A. Jenkins, Birmingham, Ala., was a recent visitor at the National Home. He is a member of Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen's National Home Liaison committee.

Campus activities of the children and National Home administrative functions were observed by Jenkins. He also contacted officials of the city of Eaton Rapids and school administrators to check on the coexistence between the Home and the community and its schools.

Billie S. Farnum, Michigan State Auditor appointed by Governor John B. Swainson, was on campus recently for his first visit to the National Home. Farnum has appeared before many statewide V.F.W. gatherings, often speaking at Department conventions.

Farnum toured the campus for several hours, observing many operations. He said that the V.F.W. is doing an outstanding job in the care of children of deceased and totally disabled comrades.

SALUTE TO WASHINGTON, D.C., MEMBERS: The Department of the District of Columbia has provided a beautiful and practical addition to the V.F.W. National Home campus. Until a short time ago, the flags of the V.F.W. National Home were flown from brackets fastened to the individual buildings. Often they would become entangled in the shrubbery and on the eaves. The Department arranged for individual rust-proof, eight foot flag poles that fit into sockets in the lawn in front of each cottage. It is a beautiful sight to see the flags fluttering in the breeze in front of each cottage.

CHRISTMAS AT THE HOME: The V.F.W. Ladies Auxiliary has for many years provided funds to purchase gifts for every child at the Home for Christmas. The little tots write their letters assisted by mother or big brother or sister. Older children list the items they would like to have.

This all begins about the first of October; then starts the task of shopping and wrapping the gifts. By Christmas Eve hundreds of presents are stacked neatly under all the Christmas trees in each cottage home. Thanks to our National Ladies Auxiliary, not one child goes without a very Merry Christmas at your V.F.W. National Home.

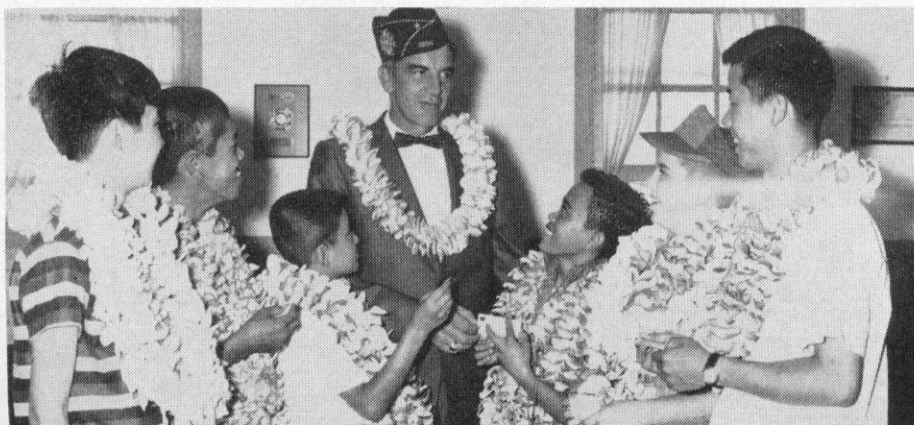
DEPARTMENT OF MAINE: Although the Department of Maine does not have a cottage at the V.F.W. National Home, it has done much to assure the health of the children who live here.

The equipment and supplies the V.F.W. and the Auxiliary of Maine provide in the orthodontic program at the Home are immeasurable in value.

But this isn't all. This same Department is refurbishing the stage in the National Home Community Center at a cost of \$1,100. This will provide new and much-needed lighting, spotlights, new back-drop curtains and the cleaning of the big front stage curtains.



As a community service project, members of Post 3580, Blue Island, Ill., recently sponsored a contest in which school children submitted designs for a city flag. U.S. Savings Bonds of \$100 went to the first place winner, \$50 for second place and \$25 for third place. Shown at the trophy and bond awards program, from left, are: Mrs. Shirley Clapeck, accepting the third place prizes for her son, John Clapeck; Mayor John Hart, Post Commander Joseph DiNovo, Jean Volhath, first place; Contest Chairman Jack Ivo and Alan Anderson, second place. The winning flag is in the background.



Department of Hawaii officers recently feted a group of newspaper carrier boys, winners of a contest sponsored by the *Army Times*. Dept. Commander Phillip W. Crampton is shown with some of the boys who arrived from Japan, Guam, Okinawa, the Philippines and Taiwan for an aloha party.

ONE NIGHT IN HELL

(Continued from page 13)

to it by running back toward the high ground, shouting alarms. Hard on their heels came the Japanese, screaming and whooping. The rear echelons could not tell comrade from foe. Figure approached figure uncertainly, finger on trigger, hand on knife handle, bayonet at the ready. The decision for action or the risking of a voice challenge was delayed until the last split second.

Fog, fear and fanaticism filled the night. Americans were bayoneted in their sleeping bags. Others had to fight from prone positions within their tents, firing their rifles out through the flaps or directly through the canvas at the slightest sign of movement.

It was everyone's war. In a small gorge in Sarana Valley the 2nd Battalion of the 32nd Regiment had established a supply dump. A dozen men, exhausted from the arduous all-day task of hand-carrying heavy supplies up into the mountains, sought a few hours respite. A company clerk crawled into a pup tent and went to sleep between a corporal and a sergeant. Explosions and screams jolted him awake. A gleaming bayonet ripped through the roof of the tent and plunged into the sergeant's stomach. Another sliced through the canvas above the clerk and hit the corporal's shoulder. The corporal cursed and fired his carbine upward. A third bayonet point entered his neck. The clerk lay as if hypnotized, eyes wide, mouth open, body tensed, waiting for the taste of cold steel. The seconds ticked by and nothing happened. The enemy had passed on, headed for Engineer Hill.

The whole of Sarana Valley glowed a dull crimson. A multitude of reflections appeared, disappeared and reappeared in the fog. Tracers from rifles and machine guns criss-crossed their fiery trails. Strange blobs of red fire whooshed through the fog in the direction of Engineer Hill. They were tracers from the American 37-millimeter guns captured by the Japanese when they overran the positions of the 17th Regiment on the flank of Jim Fish Valley.

The medic on guard at the first aid station tent at the foot of Engineer Hill glanced at the luminous dial of his watch. It was 3:49 A.M. He yawned and thought of his warm, comfortable sleeping bag just inside the tent. He sat down and hunched himself into a relaxed position. The fog closed in around him, soothing him, lulling him with a sense of personal security. He was in his own tight little cocoon and no one would care if he were to sleep just a minute or two. His head nodded forward.

It started with a faint popping noise off in Sarana Valley. The guard shifted his weight. Sounds started coming through the fog in a rising tempo, wave on wave, as the tide coming into the beach. The guard raised his head and opened his eyes. The fog parted immediately in front of him. It was as if a door had swung open. He saw the running figures. He saw the tracers. He heard the long, trailing, high-pitched scream. It echoed and re-echoed, beating furiously upon his eardrums.

"BANZAI!"

The guard was on his feet, his mind stumbling about in a state of shock. How could it be possible? How could the Japs be at the foot of Engineer Hill? Where were all the GIs? What to do? There were seven wounded men in the tent, all litter cases.

He rushed into the tent and awakened the two doctors. One was a big, rough-hewn Irishman, and the other, in contrast, was a small, compact German. They both moved quickly and decisively, putting on their boots and jackets and picking up guns.

Before they could do more, and in one rush of action, rapid gun-fire and shouting filled the air around the tent. A bullet smashed into the tent's stove pipe (Continued on next page)

Observation Post

By Bill Vaughan



Among those who are closely watching the progress of our space program, of the most interested must be Bob Hope, wondering which Christmas he'll be spending entertaining the troops on Venus.

So many other things we once thought couldn't be done have now been done, that who's to say there isn't a little glimmer of possibility for permanent peace?

The folks next door say their soldier son writes home to complain about all the complaining in his outfit. He is a sort of anti-gripe griper.

It's sort of saddening to go back home and discover that the old farm where you grew up is now a Nike site.

All the conflicting opinions about civil defense give us still another reason for hoping that peace lasts forever. The thought of a war where the civilians were as confused as the military is a chilling one.

Winter sports are getting more popular all the time. It's important to impress on novices that you can't go through a revolving door with skis on.

Who would have thought that, this many years after the last war, we'd still be seeing pictures of generals and admirals on the magazine covers about every other week?

We filled all kinds of football bowls this month, while the Communists in China are having trouble filling even one rice bowl.

In a way it is complimentary to have the songs we used to love revived on the radio, TV and juke boxes, but somehow I resent having today's kids muscling in on my nostalgia.

The vocabulary of the rocket and missile age is so unfamiliar that it gives us the strange feeling of being protected by an Army that speaks a foreign language.

A friend of mine has just returned from a Caribbean cruise aboard an air-conditioned ship. That's real luxury—no chance of inhaling any of that nasty sea air.

Everybody has had the dream, but has anyone ever actually bought a war surplus armored car to get even with the rush hour fender-smashers?

A household hint says that refrigeration keeps bread from getting stale. An easier way to keep bread from getting stale is to have a couple of teenagers in the family.

Old Sarge still insists that the non-coms run the Army, but admits you have to have officers to testify at Congressional hearings.



V.F.W. National American Chairman Edward Papantonio, Post 271, New York, N. Y., greets two Navy Purple Heart winners during the National Conference on Citizenship, Sept. 15-19, in Washington, D. C. The servicemen, Joseph Ewell, left, and James E. Perry, received flag sets. The citizenship group, composed of officials from veterans organizations, youth groups, and education associations held its 16th annual parley.



National Council of Administration Member Daniel S. Brady (right), District 3, presents a V.F.W. Certificate of Appreciation to Eileen M. Costigan, General Manager of Radio Station WSLB, Ogdensburg N. Y., for outstanding service. Watching is Dept. Inspector H. C. Brian.



Dept. of Pennsylvania Commander John T. Radko (second from left) presents a V.F.W. citation to A. G. Palmer, VA Regional Manager, Wilkes-Barre, for earning the distinction of having the best VA office of the year in the state, and for meritorious veterans' service. Shown also are Dept. Service Officers R. R. Ritz (left) and G. C. Kelly, VA official.



New headquarters for the Dept. of Wisconsin is this remodeled church building in Manitowoc. The building was purchased for \$8,500 on a lot 50'x150' with office area measuring 25'x48' and kitchen space.

with a loud "WHANG!" An aid man who had been sleeping in the tent jumped up and ran to the entrance. He stopped, stiffened, placed his hands on his stomach, spun around and fell to the ground, dead from a rifle bullet.

The wounded men awoke and cried out. The two doctors moved among the men, warning them to lie quietly, not to fire any weapons, and not to worry because everything would be all right. Bullets ripped through the tent fabric from every side. The pot-bellied stove rang repeatedly like a signaling gong each time it was struck. A patient yelled as a bullet hit his leg. The Irish doctor felt his forehead turn as a bullet creased it. He wiped at the blood with his sleeve.

Death came quickly to the man who had been placed near the stove because he was suffering from exposure. A bullet shattered the top of his head. In a moment, though, he would save the lives of everyone else in the tent.

As suddenly as it had started, the noise outside the tent stopped. There was no more shooting. The Japanese could be heard talking in low, excited tones. They had discovered a huge cache of American rifles and ammunition.

The tension inside the tent became almost unbearable. The wounded men displayed tremendous discipline as they lay quietly, scarcely breathing, despite the pain of their wounds and the terror of the moment. Each man had been given a gun. Eyes and gun muzzles were concentrated on the tent flaps of the main entrance. But the Irish doctor knew that if the Japs decided to toss a few grenades into the tent, it would be a bloody ending for all of them and there was nothing that could be done about it.

An idea came to the doctor. Moving quickly, but with caution, he picked up the body of the man who had the top of his head blown off and propped the body directly in the tent's entrance. The doctor whispered orders to the other men to "Keep your guns ready but *play dead!*"

The flaps parted almost immediately and a Japanese officer peered in. Another tent burning nearby illuminated the interior of the first aid tent. The officer stepped in and looked at the mutilated body of the American soldier. He glanced around at the other still figures sprawled about the floor of the tent. He looked down again at the bloody form at his feet, then hurriedly backed out of the tent. He shouted orders to his men and they moved on up Engineer Hill.

The long, bloody drive had cost Colonel Yamasaki half his men, but he stood now only a few hundred yards from achieving his miracle. Once the Japanese gained possession of the American artillery position and the long-range guns, the Americans would have no choice but to evacuate the island. The colonel drove his men in a wild frenzy.

No, the miracle was not to be. On the upper slopes of Engineer Hill stood the unheralded men of the service units, the engineers, the cooks, the mechanics, the supply men, the signal corpsmen, all quickly molded into a stiff defensive line. In the brief space of ten minutes, the men of the 50th Engineers and the men from the miscellaneous service units had organized and armed themselves.

These men stood firm, trading bullet for bullet at point-blank range with the charging Japs. Then they fought hand-to-hand with bayonets, knives, clubs and fists.

The hated fog had come with the attackers, covering and aiding them. Now it suddenly evaporated, and as it did, so did the momentum of the attack. The need to kill ended abruptly. There were no more Japanese soldiers straining to gain the slopes of Engineer Hill.

So were learned the three bitter lessons by the American troops. Yet, even as they learned those lessons, they proved themselves in heroic proportions. They re-won the first American soil of World War II, proved themselves in the first ground offensive combat action of the Pacific Campaign, and successfully met the challenge of the first such military action of World War II, that which was to be known by a word always spoken in lowered voice, keyed with fear and desperation: *breakthrough!*

[The End]

Our National Defense Posture

(Continued from page 15)

friendly nations in such areas as weather satellites and communications satellites, in navigation and tracking. The work being pursued by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration is leading toward a broad-based capability to travel in space and do what we wish in space for whatever purpose is necessary.

I mentioned that the Congress protected the military interest in space when it passed the Space Act in 1958. This was because we realized that in the world of today, the threat of naked Soviet power is very great. We in Congress even strengthened the hand of the Department of Defense in its right to engage in space activities over what was originally proposed by the administration. The Department of Defense is given jurisdiction over space activities which relate primarily to or are peculiar to weapons systems. But more than that, the Department of Defense is permitted to pursue any other space research and development important to the defense of the nation. Of course, means were also provided to coordinate the space work of the NASA and the Department of Defense and prevent needless duplication through the President's National Aeronautics and Space Council. It was placed on a detailed day-to-day basis through a Civilian-Military Liaison Committee (now replaced by the Aeronautics and Astronautics Coordination Board).

Our military power in space has several elements, and conditions are changing so rapidly that what exists today may be quite different in a very few years. Particularly, our long range missiles can be regarded as space devices. This is because they travel through space on the greater part of their flight, and partly because they use the same technology and test ranges as the space vehicles. These long range missiles have been used in modified form to launch most of our space satellites and probes.

Already, satellites are serving experimentally as navigation aids, for geodetic purposes, for weather reporting, and for communications. Note that all of these purposes have civilian as well as military values. Much of the division of effort between NASA and the Department of Defense is one of administrative convenience. Later there may be military uses for space which are more uniquely in that category, such as missile detection, reconnaissance, satellite inspection, and so forth. Even these, though classed as military, support the peace by lessening the chance of surprise attack, and hence strengthening our deterrent against general war.

If new military needs arise in space, they will be identifiable and available for development because of the provisions written into the Space Act which permit the Department of Defense to pursue such research even in advance of formal designation of any weapons system.

Today we have already in place and in operation several complexes equipped

(Continued on next page)

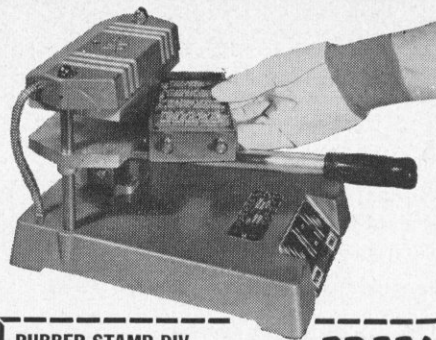
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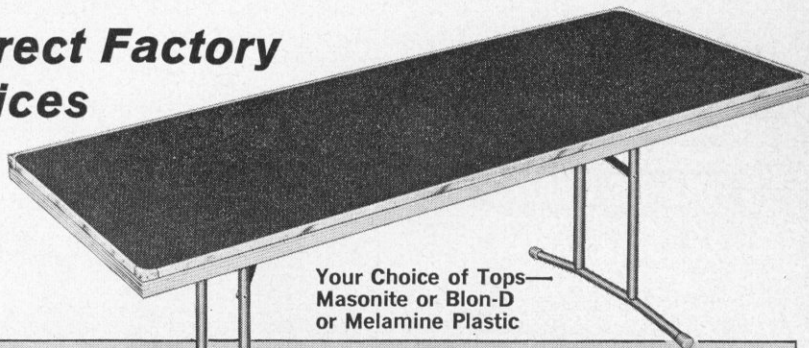
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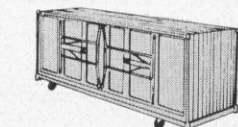
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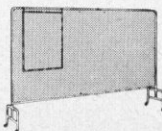
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with the Atlas missile of full intercontinental range. Coming along are new installations for later model Atlas missiles which are in partially hardened sites, giving them increased survivability against surprise attack. Also there are Titan missiles of full intercontinental range being emplaced in hardened sites, and these will be joined a little later by the Titan II. The Titan II will carry storable propellants instead of using liquid oxygen and kerosene. This means they could be fired in a minute or so of the time a decision was made to do so, instead of the minimum countdown time of about 15 minutes on the earlier models.

These several types of liquid propelled missiles will be joined in the next couple of years by considerable numbers of completely hardened Minuteman launching silos, carrying the solid-fuel Minuteman of intercontinental range. Our deterrent as well as offensive power will be further diversified and be given a new invulnerability by Skybolt, a ballistic missile which can be carried under the wings of a B-52 bomber for air launch from directions no enemy can anticipate in detail.

Actually, our strongest missile deterrent this last year has been Polaris. By the fall of 1961 it had reached the level of five submarines on patrol carrying 16 Polaris missiles each. They are able to guarantee certain destruction to the main centers of power of any enemy foolish enough to attack us, even if the enemy had been able to catch all of our continental missile sites and all our aircraft by surprise (an unlikely event in itself). Polaris has the further advantage of requiring an enormous defensive effort on the part of those who have reason to fear a retaliatory blow from the United States. And if, God forbid, war should ever be forced on us, Polaris would draw a portion of enemy strength away from our own shores.

The latest estimates reach the somewhat surprising although gratifying conclusion that the United States is presently

ahead in the number of long-range ballistic missiles on station. Apparently the Soviet Union, for reasons unknown, did not or could not press the advantage of production in their earlier start. Even if this assessment is correct, and absolute proofs are hard to come by, this is no excuse for any relaxation in our efforts to prepare strong defenses. Conditions can change, and what is adequate today can be neutralized later through further advances in weapons.

The Congress has shown itself to be especially sensitive to the dangers of a technological upset. We have pushed vigorously for the most rapid development and production of an effective antimissile missile, embodied in the Nike Zeus project. The first nation which can perfect a defense against ballistic missile attack will overturn much of the present power position in the world. There is some evidence that the Soviet Union is working very hard on missile defenses, and it is vitally important that we do at least equally well in this most difficult technical task.

Congress has also urged greater support for the B-70 bomber, a revolutionary aircraft of great versatility which will cruise at three times the speed of sound. Congress has urged more support for the Dyna-Soar, a manned maneuverable space ship which can glide back to a field of its choosing, rather than fall back in pure ballistic flight. Congress has supported the new administration in providing funds for an increased airborne alert of the Strategic Air Command. This is an interim measure to keep an important percentage of our bombers out of the reach of any surprise Soviet attack by missiles during the time that our own missile bases are still striving to reach their planned goals of adequate numbers, dispersion, hardening and quick reaction time.

In keeping with the broad concepts of national security which I have offered, we have undertaken an enormous task as a national mission. This was the President's call for an all-out effort to place an American expedition on the moon during the course of this decade, preferably ahead of any such feat by the Soviet Union. Such a program is an official executive branch recognition of policies urged in a succession of Congressional reports dating back to 1958. This great project includes within its purposes virtually all the elements of national security which I have outlined. It will be the basis for a great expansion of our industry, employment, and scientific knowledge. It will enhance our international prestige and sense of national purpose. It will provide a steady fallout of economic applications of space technology to make the program pay for itself in benefits. And it will provide a new versatility in the use of space to meet any future military threats which emerge there in the years ahead. It is hard to imagine a program which is more worth doing and which will make a greater return to every part of our national life.

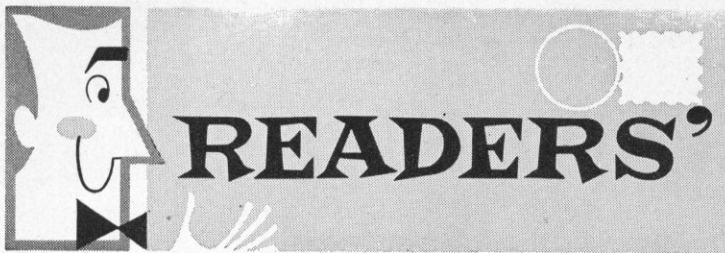
In short, the missile and space age is bringing great challenges which our nation is prepared to meet with resolution. The way will not be easy, but in net balance, we have no other choice. The rewards will be in proportion to the effort we make.

[The End]



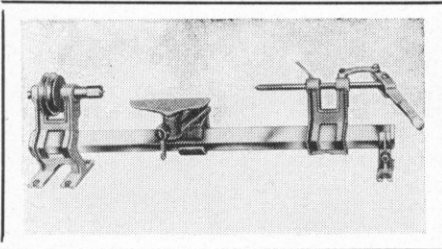
V.F.W. Judge Advocate General John A. Jenkins, Birmingham, Ala. (right), presents a V.F.W. Award of Merit to Col. Paul B. Robinson, president of The Marion Institute, Marion, Ala. The award was presented in recognition of the school's recent designation by the Department of the Army as an Honor Military School. A reproduction of the citation will appear soon on the front cover of the school's Alumni Magazine.

V.F.W. MAGAZINE

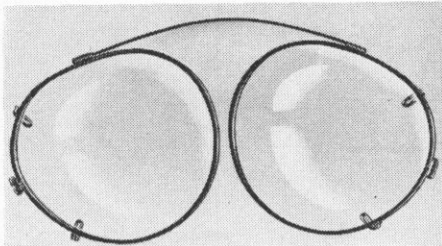


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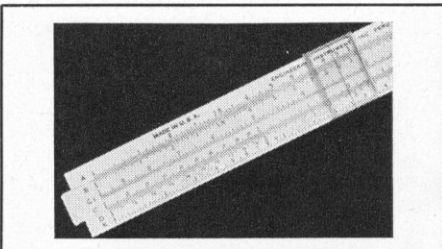
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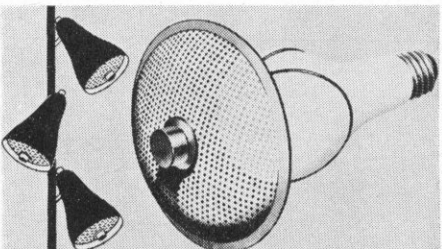
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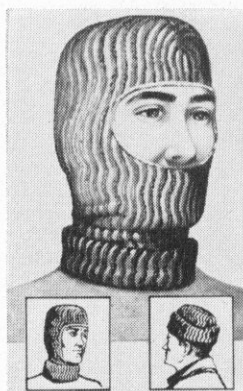
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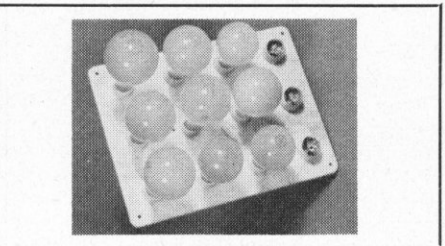
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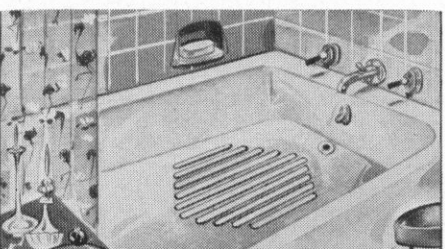
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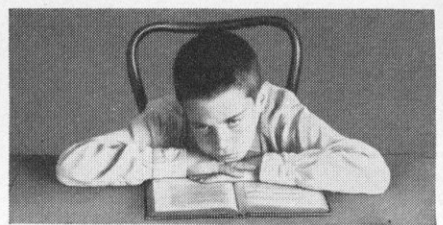
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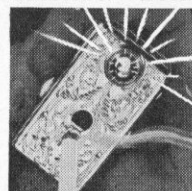
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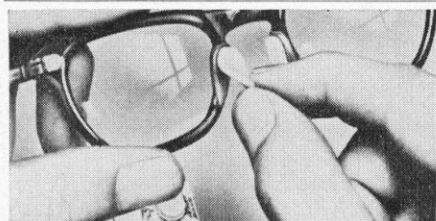
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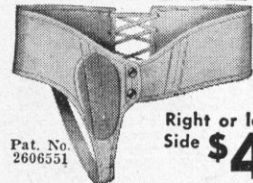
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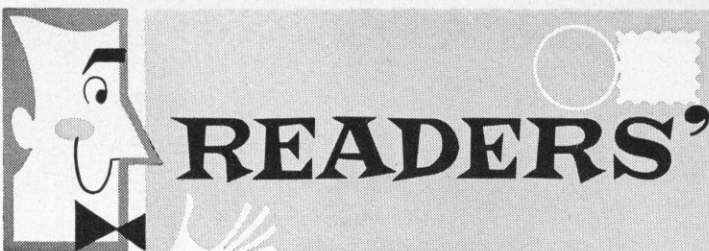
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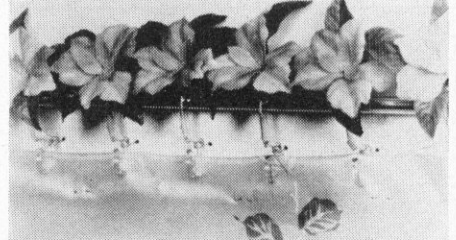


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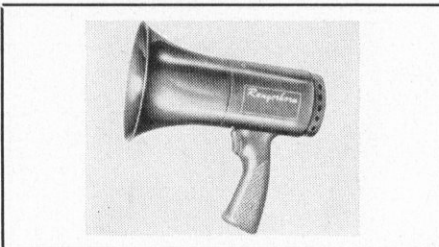
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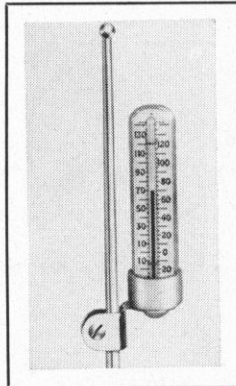
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Electronic Rangerhorn—Your voice can be heard, clearly and distinctly, up to 1,000 feet away! Also features far listening power. Just remove horn from speaker end and place on "mike" side. Becomes an instrument to hear distant sounds. Uses standard 1½ Volt C photoflash batteries (not included). \$14.98 p.p.d. Albany House, Dept. VFW, 1601 Albany Ave. Blvd., Atlantic City, N.J.

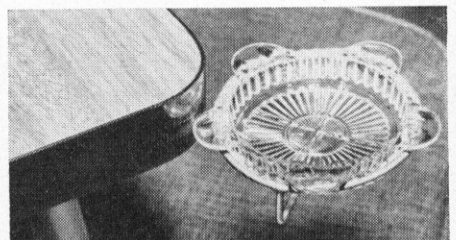


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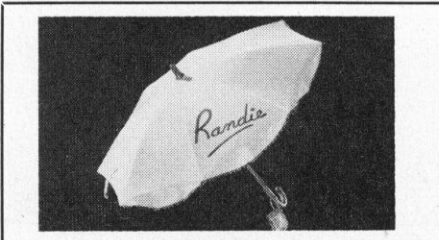


Pocket Alarm Watch

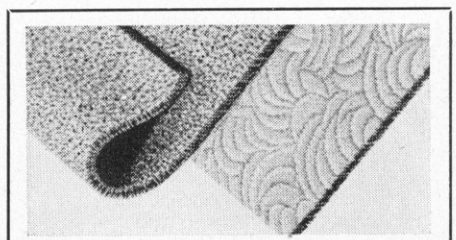
Makes a useful gift for any man or boy. This fine 7-jewel Swiss made watch can be set to go off at any time. The alarm rings with a sharp, clear tone. Back opens to form a stand, making watch double as desk or night table clock. Watch has second sweep, luminous dial and hands. One year guarantee. A wonderful gift for that birthday or Christmas list. Only \$13.25 postpaid. Order today from Robert Gerald, Dept. VFW-1, 333 East 50th Street, New York 22, New York.



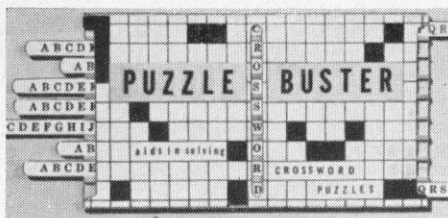
New Hide-Away Ashtray—Keep ashtrays off the table, but always handy, with the new Hide-Away Ashtray. Attach it to underside of table. It swings out when you use it, then back out of sight under table. Swings in 12" radius; vertical movement is 4". Made of nickel plated steel with mounting screws and replaceable glass ashtray. \$2.98 postpaid. Tray Manufacturing, Dept. VF, Box 26, Bovey, Minn.



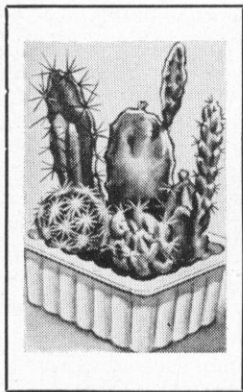
Personalized Umbrella—She will wish for rainy days just to carry this lovely new, valance-style umbrella. Made of solid red acetate fabric and personalized with her own name in smart script. Colorful plaid binding around edge; slim new crook-type handle. Free rain hood with each umbrella. Print name to be used. Only \$3.50 ea., p.p.d. Tod Products, Dept. 69, 12 No. 52nd St., Philadelphia 39, Pa.



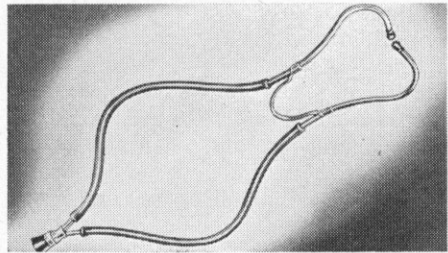
If you are looking forward to new rugs or wall to wall carpeting in your home, be certain to send now for the new 1962 Olson Factory-to-you Rug, Carpet and Home Decorating book. It's free and it features 49 model rooms filled with up to the minute decorating ideas. Special gift certificate included. Write to The Olson Rug Factory, Dept. VFW, 2800 North Pulaski Road, Chicago 41, Ill.



Solve Crossword Puzzles—Pocket-size "Puzzle Buster" is a spelling aid on words up to nine letters. Slide known letters in proper positions in center slot. Then try combinations of unknown letters. Presto, you've got your word! Helps you spell known words, too. Handy spelling tips on reverse side. 5" x 3". \$1.00 ppd. Spencer Gifts, Dept. VFW, Spencer Building, Atlantic City, N.J.



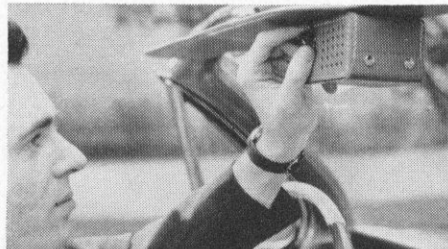
Free Cactus Garden—Five different Cactus varieties, all capable of producing gorgeous desert flowers, are featured in this one complete garden. Each collected variety is quite different from the other. Sent free to start free membership in world's largest gardening plan. To receive full facts and a complete description of this unique gardening plan and how you can get the Cactus Garden free, mail your name and address to Flower-of-the-Month, Dept. CT-1603, Grand Rapids 2, Mich.



USMC Stethoscope—Ever try to buy one of these? They're hard to find, and usually expensive. This is a U.S. Medical Corps stethoscope that is brand new surplus. It's ideal for doctors, engineers and mechanics (to check trouble spots in motors, etc.); educational for children and adults. Only \$2.95 postpaid (half regular price). Banner Supply Dept. VFW, 125 East 41st Street, New York 17, N.Y.



"Supermite" Battery Charger—Gives new life to dead battery. Charges both 6 and 12 volt. Delivers fast but safe full 4 amp. power charge. Ammeter shows charging rate. Circuit breaker prevents overload. Shuts off automatically when battery is fully charged. Plugs into any electric outlet. Heavy duty. Full year guarantee. \$14.95 ppd. Meridian Co., Dept. VFW, 366 Madison Ave., New York 17, N.Y.



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WHAT MAKES AMERICA GREAT

(Continued from page 11)

the three-headed division of government known as Executive, Legislative, and Judiciary. The President, the Congress, the Supreme Court—sometimes when they get to squabbling, the three-headed division seems like a three-headed hydra. More often, it appears clearly to be what it is: the shrewdest and toughest mechanism ever devised for compromising the differences of section and race and draining away into a mutually acceptable, peaceful formula the strains and stresses that might otherwise tear the nation apart. On the one occasion that the mechanism was allowed to deteriorate to the point of collapse, the nation was torn apart. Constantly upon the deliberations of those who manage the mechanism now lies the shadow of that disaster and with it the vivid determination that it must never again be allowed to happen. By so much is the will to compromise strengthened and the urge to accommodate fortified; even more than the memory of supreme heroism, the men of North and South handed on to their descendants the injunction to get along together. The nation knows now that this is not merely desirable; the events of a hundred years ago bear constant witness to the fact that it is imperative.

Perhaps most central to this process, because it is in many ways the most representative, is the Congress of the United States, a body not always regarded in a kindly light by the citizenry, but one which nonetheless mirrors,

with a sometimes frightening accuracy, their own strengths and weaknesses. There is no idealism but what has its echo in the Congress, no prejudice but what sooner or later finds therein its sounding place. As the citizens are noble, so is the Congress noble; as they are mean, so is the Congress mean. In a way that mystifies the foreign observer and often baffles the native, the Congress of the United States in all its blundering, yet curiously hopeful humanity, is the American people; and if it does not always live up to the best that is in the people, they have, in the last analysis, only themselves to blame.

For the most part, however, it can be said that it does live up to the best that is in them, and when it is regarded in the long perspective of the years, rather than through the immature and impatient spyglass of its more unsophisticated critics, there emerges a record that does, on the whole, do justice to the ideals and aspirations of a free people. Progress at times seems maddeningly slow; ideas that theoretically should at once find their way to the statute books take years to be hammered into shape; it often seems as though a hundred days are necessary to accomplish what one really diligent afternoon could produce—and yet, somehow, the task gets done. And often, by very virtue of the slowness, it gets done on the basis of a general consensus, without which no legislation could in the long run either be passed or, once passed, be honored by the citizenry.

V.F.W. Chief Urges Support of Radio Free Europe

IN A RECENT letter to all V.F.W. Post Commanders urging financial support of the Radio Free Europe program, Commander-in-Chief Robert E. Hansen wrote:

"I have had the privilege of visiting and inspecting Radio Free Europe operations and installations in Lisbon and Munich. Radio Free Europe beams truth and hope to 80,000,000 people behind the Iron Curtain. It is a cause that merits every bit of help we can give.

"Our 1961 National Convention (Resolution 230) and our National Americanism Committee recommend giving all possible

support to Radio Free Europe.

"I urge you to take up a collection at your next Post meeting or to make a contribution from your Post treasury."

Individual or Post contributions should be made payable to the Department Quartermaster and sent to Department Headquarters before Jan. 25. Be sure to earmark all checks and money orders "Radio Free Europe Fund." Department Quartermasters will credit the contributions and forward them to National Headquarters, c/o Radio Free Europe Fund, and the contributions will be presented to Radio Free Europe officials.

It is in the finding of this general consensus, bringing it into focus and using it to modify, modulate, and strengthen the laws, that the Congress emerges in its truest light as one of the indispensable foundation stones of American greatness. Partly this is due to the method of its composition; partly it is due to the responsibilities of institution that its members acquire once they join it; partly, also, it is due to the constant flood of public opinion as it beats in from constituents, the press, and the world. Together, these influences blend into a force against which Congressional ideas are tested, Congressional actions are planned, and Congressional objectives are either extended or modified.

For here is a body, composed of 100 Senators and 437 Representatives, which could not possibly be more reflective of the nation than it is. Its members range from millionaires, such as Senator Robert S. Kerr of Oklahoma and Representative Frances P. Bolton of Ohio, to those of more modest means, such as Senator George D. Aiken of Vermont and Representative John Brademas of Indiana. It includes within its ranks such thoughtful statesmen as Senator Mike Mansfield of Montana and Representative Richard Bolling of Missouri, such dealers in the pyrotechnic as Oregon's Senator Wayne Morse and Iowa's Representative H. R. Gross. It has Negro members, such as Representatives William L. Dawson of Illinois, Charles Diggs of Michigan, and Adam Clayton Powell of New York; a Hindu, such as Representative D. S. Saund of California; a Chinese-American, such as Senator Hiram Fong of Hawaii, a Japanese-American, such as Representative Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii. It has young men, old men, middle-aged men, and women; honest men, dishonest men, noble men, and petty men; statesmen, mountebanks, philosophers, and fools. It has, in short—and the parallel with its country should not be forgotten, for all these categories are to be found in relatively similar proportion in the citizenry—just about everything. It is not surprising that it should be so quintessentially American or that it should be possible to say that, in a very real sense, it is America.

Because of this, its faults, when they occur, are more understandable. Many a citizen who engages in ringing denunciation of the Congress might not be quite so noisily know-it-all if he were elected to speak for an area where he had to balance the demands of labor, say, against the demands of conscience; or if he had to help decide with his personal vote some issue in which the national interest is matched against the terrifying potentialities of world holocaust. It is all very well to criticize—and that, too, is a purpose Congress serves, to be a national target for it—but there are reasons for what the members do, as huge and diverse and conflicting and

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contradictory as the land itself. The surprising thing about Congress does not lie in the fact that it does not attain the ideal on every occasion, but that it comes near it at all; and that it comes near it, be it said in justice, far more often than it fails.

To draw 537 men and women from 185,000,000 by all the processes of local pressure that initially elect them to office and find them, for the most part, so faithful to their trust, so dedicated to serving their country, and able to achieve so generally good a batting average in their attempts to forward the national purpose, is the miracle and triumph of American democracy. Like the famous wartime cartoon of the bumblebee that, by the laws of aerodynamics, can't possibly fly but manages nonetheless, so the Congress, which theoretically should fall apart upon the rocks of conflicting regional interest, contrives just the same to cohere and do the job for which it was originally intended. In the most subtle and complex of all forms of government—freedom—it achieves, in most subtle and complex human ways, the ends for which it was created. Thus does it advance the interests and safeguard the liberties of those for whom it governs.

There is, to repeat, nothing simple or easy in this freedom, which so many

peoples shout about and so few really understand. That it commands men's imaginations as nothing else is proved, to mention one recent example, on the continent of Africa, where illiterate child-men who think freedom means only the license to loot and go on a perpetual picnic nonetheless cry the word as they riot in the muddy streets of a dozen ramshackle capitals. Whatever the excesses committed in its name—and over the course of history they have been frequent and terrible—the shining ideal remains, stronger by far than any artificial slogan mouthed out of Moscow could ever be. But it is only in a few favored lands that it has ever been achieved. This, by the grace of God and the unceasing efforts of its people, is one.

To oppress and restrict and murder and misuse one's fellow beings is all too simple; to treat them with respect and consideration and the tolerance that grows from mutually shared ideals of liberty in a genuine climate of freedom is a much more difficult thing.

Not always perfectly, by any means, but still as her conscious and overriding purpose in the world, America strives so to do in her national living; and by so much, matched against the dark and bloody record of so many other states and races, is America great.

[The End]

MEN PAST 40

Afflicted With Getting Up Nights, Pains in Back, Hips, Legs, Nervousness, Tiredness.

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Are often associated with Glandular Inflammation. These disorders, we can successfully treat for you, at the same time we treat Glandular Inflammation.

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Pilgrimage Travelers Help Strengthen People to People Friendship Ties With Free Europe

(Continued from page 19)

host at a reception for the visiting V.F.W. delegation. This function of the tour was held at the Invalides, where Napoleon is buried.

Appearing at the "Hotel de Ville", the city hall of Paris, on the afternoon of Nov. 10, the pilgrims were welcomed by Mayor Paul Minot who said:

"In two wars you came to preserve liberty and democracy. Once again you stand ready to cope with the menace of the East, if need be." Mayor Minot said that because of this, he was especially happy to greet the American delegation representing the V.F.W.

Thereupon Mayor Minot approached Commander-in-Chief Hansen and bestowed upon him the "Medaille de Vermeil", the highest honor that the City of Paris imparts to a foreign national. To National Auxiliary President Adamson went the Great Silver Medal of the City of Paris. A reception for the pilgrims followed the ceremonies.

That evening at Paris Post 605, with Commander Leon G. Turrou as host, the visiting V.F.W. party was feted at an impressive reception. U.S. Ambassador James Gavin and Jacques Chaban-Delmas, President of the French National Assembly, headed the list of 300 distinguished guests. Others included Mayor Minot, Henri Bonnet, the former French ambassador to the United States and seven members of the French Cabinet. U.S. military personnel stationed in Paris were present also at the

lavish reception held in Pershing Hall.

Ambassador Gavin welcomed the U.S. group and called for unity among free nations in facing up to common enemies.

Commander Turrou presented French Minister Triboulet an award from Post 605. The French official praised the U.S. preparedness program.

Commander-in-Chief Hansen and Auxiliary President Adamson received gold brooches from Commander Turrou, who also presented an award to Mayor Minot in the name of Post 605.

Upon receiving a gold plaque from Post 605 officers, Commander-in-Chief Hansen said: "I wish to express my thanks and the appreciation of this V.F.W. group for the outstanding job Post 605 has done in preparing for our visit." The V.F.W. leader singled out Commander Turrou and Senior Vice Commander Clarence M. Glover, the latter of whom was chairman of the Paris pilgrimage committee.

Veterans Day, which is Armistice Day in France, was the occasion for a day-long impressive observance in memory of fallen war heroes, American and French. By special invitation of General Charles de Gaulle, President of the French Republic, the V.F.W. pilgrims participated in the French Armistice Day ceremony at the Arc de Triomphe.

An estimated two million persons lined famous Champs Elysees, the boulevard leading to the Arc de Triomphe, to see General de Gaulle pass by in an



While in England, the pilgrimage group visited the home of J. Paul Getty, noted financier, who lives at Sutton Place, near London. Getty is shown (third from right) with Commander-in-Chief and Mrs. Hansen. Others in photo, from left are Commander Frank Manson, James D. Hittle, V.F.W. National Security and Foreign Affairs Director; National Auxiliary President Beulah Adamson, Admiral Leland P. Lovette, V.F.W. Publicity Committee; Gifford Adamson, brother of the Auxiliary President; Lt. Col. Charles Crossfield, John L. Smith, V.F.W. National Public Relations Director, and Leon Turrou, Commander of Post 605, Paris, France, who had charge of arrangements for pilgrimage activities in Paris.

open automobile on the way to the stirring ceremonies. Arriving at the tomb of the Unknown Soldier of France, General de Gaulle placed a wreath at the site, then walked over to the V.F.W. pilgrims where he shook hands with Commander-in-Chief Hansen and others among the line of guests at the event.

Emotionally moved by the outstanding Armistice Day ceremonies, the V.F.W. group withdrew from the Arc de Triomphe and departed for the U.S. Military cemetery at Suresnes, located on the outskirts of Paris. At Suresnes, during a memorial program beginning at 3 o'clock on Nov. 11, the V.F.W. pilgrims observed ceremonies under direction of Post 605 Commander Turrou.

Ambassador Gavin and Robert A. Vivien, Deputy to the Minister of French War Veterans, were principal speakers at this moving event. Invocations by Rev. Father J. J. Murphy and the Very Rev. Sturgis Riddle, representing the Catholic and Protestant faiths, opened the ceremony.

In his remarks, Commander-in-Chief Hansen said in part: "It is with pleasure that I have an opportunity to lead a delegation of our comrades and sisters on this pilgrimage to Europe and to appear today at this memorial service. I am confident that the experience will be revealing and memorable to all who are participating."

The V.F.W. leader acknowledged appreciation to the members of Post 605 for preparing an outstanding four-day stay in Paris for the pilgrims.

Ambassador Gavin called for continued vigilance against the Communist menace to the free world. He emphasized that never before in history have relations between France and the United States been better.

Deputy Minister Vivien said the French people have faith and confidence in the American people. He said that he fought side by side with Americans during World War II and in Korea. "I was personally able to observe their heroic deeds on the battlefield," he said. "I appeal for a stronger and closer unity among the Allies."

A firing squad, provided by the Seine Area Command, and a color bearer and bugle unit participated in the services. The French Military Band provided music. Wreaths were placed at the graves of fallen U.S. soldiers by Commander-in-Chief Hansen, National Auxiliary President Adamson and Ambassador Gavin.

Upon return from Suresnes, the V.F.W. group enplaned the following morning for Germany. Headed by National Auxiliary President Adamson, a contingent left for Munich and visits in that city. The remainder began tours of West Berlin.

Three and a half days spent in West Berlin afforded the V.F.W. travelers a



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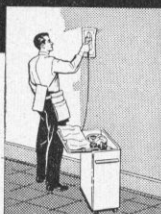
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detailed itinerary of military, sight-seeing and entertainment activities to fill a complete schedule in the city the Communists would like to enslave.

As one V.F.W. member was overheard to remark on the first day of his arrival, as his group looked to East Berlin:

"We will long remember these people of West Berlin who must climb ladders, trees, or stand on high mounds of earth for the opportunity to look over the Communist wall into East Berlin... hoping to catch glimpses of relatives or friends still imprisoned there."

Commander-in-Chief Hansen led the group in the visit to headquarters of the U.S. Military Command in West Berlin. This occasion, on Nov. 13, enabled them to attend military briefings on the current status of the tense Berlin issues.

After meeting with the military, the V.F.W. members were transported to the city hall of West Berlin. Awaiting them was Mayor Willy Brandt, who extended an enthusiastic welcome to all.

"The people of Berlin face the future with courage and confidence," Mayor Brandt said. "The people here are determined to fight to the last man to retain their freedom."

The V.F.W. leader assured the German official that the V.F.W. strongly advocated the defense of West Berlin.

"We recognize this city as the symbol of freedom to men everywhere," Hansen said.

Two parties of V.F.W. pilgrims made the invasion of East Berlin from the noted entry which has been popularly referred to as "Checkpoint Charlie." While the bulk of V.F.W. travelers went beyond the wall for a look at the bleak, dismal surroundings that loom out from behind the showplace street, Karl Marx Allee, two V.F.W. members ventured alone on a walk past "Checkpoint Charlie" to the Communist side. They were Commander-in-Chief Hansen and V.F.W. National Public Relations Director John L. Smith. After surrendering passports to East Berlin Vopos (police) at the check point, Hansen and Smith took off on a 90 minute tour of East Berlin without incident.

However, the heavy itinerary of the Commander-in-Chief demanded that he soon return to the freedom side, and he forthwith set out for an appointment at the Berlin Military Command Headquarters.

It was at this command headquarters that Commander-in-Chief Hansen met with General Lucius Clay, special advisor to President Kennedy on Berlin, and Maj. Gen. Albert Watson, Commander of the West Berlin garrison.

Generals Clay and Watson informed the V.F.W. leader that, while the situation in Berlin is indeed critical, the morale of the armed forces was extremely high. Efficiency of the garrison

troops was praised highly by the military men in their briefing for Hansen.

Ten days out of New York, and with inspiring and relaxing visits in England, France and Germany behind them, the V.F.W. pilgrims returned to the air lanes for the flight to Rome and their introduction to the Eternal City.

Official protocol and visits were lessened for the V.F.W. group in Rome and as a consequence more time was directed to sightseeing in the Eternal City, the Vatican City and environs.

An official visit by the Commander-in-Chief was made at the U.S. Embassy where U.S. Ambassador G. Frederick Reinhardt greeted the V.F.W. travelers.

Highlight of the visit in Rome was the audience for the V.F.W. group with Pope John XXIII.

Many of the sightseeing attractions of the Eternal City were visited by the group during the three day stay in Rome. St. Peter's Basilica in the Vatican City, the Colosseum, Hadrian's Villa, the Pantheon, and the many other sights attracted the V.F.W. travelers.

Departing from Rome on Nov. 17, the pilgrims flew westward to Nice, France, for two days on the famous Riviera. Monte Carlo beckoned some of the travelers. Others took to the art displays. After a full schedule of relaxation, the group departed for the United States... journey's end after a full program of seeing Europe and helping the V.F.W.'s fame grow overseas.

[The End]

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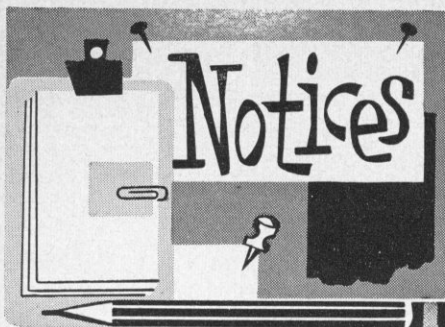


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To avoid errors, material submitted for publication in this column should be either printed or typed. These notices are published free of charge for members just as soon as space conditions permit.

ARMY

6th Div. (WWI & WWII)—Want to hear from former buddies.—J. Grossman, 1005 W. 46th St., Los Angeles 32, Calif.

9th Reg., 124th Co., USMC (WWI)—Would like to hear from Orville Cross, Kansas City, Mo., and former buddies who served with me at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, from 1917 to 1921.—Edward J. McCullough, 3571 Lackwood Drive, Cincinnati 11, Ohio.

42nd Gen. Hosp.—To help establish a claim I would like to contact Dr. George H. Yeager, former C.O. of the 42nd General Hospital at Brisbane, Australia, in 1943—Clarence A. Schneider, Route 2, Box 31, Tawas City, Mich.

133rd Reg., Co. G, 34th Div.—Would like to contact relatives of a soldier named Freeman, from Buffalo, N.Y., who was fatally injured during action in Italy in 1944. Would also like to contact men from company who remember me.—Ernest L. Aaron, Route 2, Box 38, Atmore, Ala.

314th Inf., Co. I, 79th Div.—Would like to hear from former members.—Victor Coppo, 15417 Hazelton Ave., Detroit 23, Mich.

340th Bomb Group—Would like to hear from former buddies.—John McMillan, Box 7, Requa, Calif.

399th Inf., 100th Div.—Would like to hear from John F. Booth, formerly of Fort Atkinson, Wis., and now possibly living in Milwaukee, who served with me in France.—Joseph C. Caraway, P.O. Box 5064, Alexandria, La.

475th Air Ser. Group—Would like to contact William A. Elliott, believed to be living in New York City, who served with me in France, Belgium and Germany.—John G. Daniels, Lake Shore Drive, Bellingham, Mass.

Ranger Battalions—Trying to locate members to bring rosters up to date. Write W. J. Syring, 4848 No. 76th St., Milwaukee 18, Wis.

Information—Want to contact John T. Parke, who served in the Signal Corps from 1946 to 1948 at Camp Polk, La., and Fort Monmouth, N.J. He re-enlisted in Army and was believed to have served in the Aleutian Islands in 1955-56—Donald F. MacLean, First Guard Company, USADB, Fort Leavenworth, Kans.

Information—Want to renew acquaintances with men from Co. F, U.S. Signal Corps, who served during 1909 to 1912 at Manila, P.I.—George F. Cooke, 5946 N. Peoria, Tulsa, Okla.

Information—Any one who was stationed at Camp Stockton, Calif., in November, 1942, contact George L. Murphy, 208 Rosedale Ave., Apt. 137, Camden 5, N.J.

Information—We are seeking the whereabouts of our son, William Franklin Baird, 32, who has been missing from home since June 22, 1959. He served in the Air Force from 1951 to 1953, Sqdn. 3708, Group 3700, APO 227. He is 5'10", 190 pounds, dark hair, blue-green eyes, and has a scar on right side of nose and across forehead.—Mrs. George Baird, 604 So. 11th St., Keokuk, Iowa.



The home of Post 3169, Scituate, Mass., was the scene of a recent reception in celebration of the 325th anniversary of the founding of the Town of Scituate. Shown at the ceremonies, from left, are Dept. of Massachusetts Junior Vice Commander Joseph Anderson, Dept. Commander Edward Harlung, Governor John Volpe, Scituate Selectman Lester Gates, and Commander Paul Anderson, Post 3169. Governor Volpe was the honored guest at the Post home reception event.

NAVY

USS Cambria—Want to hear from those who served aboard during WWII to make reunion plans. Write Charles F. Hines, 7250 Baker Lane, Sebastopol, Calif.

USS LCI (L) 419—Would like to hear from men who served aboard during WWII.—Write Dewitt T. Hughes, Jr., 406 East Gaines, Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

USS Miantonomah—Would like to hear from those who served aboard with me when this mine-layer was sunk Sept. 25, 1944, in English Channel, LeHarve, France.—William Minix, 1230 Grace St. Mansfield, Ohio.

USS Parker (DD-604)—To establish a claim, I would like to contact shipmates for information verifying my stomach disorders and fungus growths while serving on the Parker.—Jack "Dumbo" Crawford, Sidney Center, N.Y.

USS Suffolk (AKA-69)—Would like to hear from Classens, C. T. Hooper, B. Phillips, William Willbanks, Dr. Junkins and men who served in North Africa with me, especially P. O. DeWitte, (1942-44).—G. H. Waymire, 402 So. Richman, Villa Grove, Ill.

Information—Philcom-Air Transient Billets—Need to contact Arthur Blackburn, Kingfisher, Okla., and T/Sgt. Peter Canughton, New York, N.Y. who served with me in Manila, P.I.—James E. Trezona, 10 Fern Hill, Wharton 3, N.J.

N.A.T.T.C. Memphis, Tenn. (1943)—Would like to contact Shirley McCarty, former chief petty officer stationed at this base. He was a buddy of my son's whom we lost contact with in 1948 when he and his family were living in Woodland Hills, Calif.—Mrs. Frank N. MacPherson, 94 Hudson Ave., Roosevelt, N.Y.

Reunions

Because of publication closing date schedules, V.F.W. Magazine must receive notices of forthcoming reunions at least 90 days in advance of the actual reunion dates. To avoid errors, all material should be either printed plainly or typed. These notices are published free of charge as space conditions permit.

ARMY

4th Engrs. (WWI)—March 10, Multnomah Hotel, Portland, Oregon. Write A. B. Chappell, 4714 N.E. Wistaria Dr., Portland 13, Ore.

31st Field Hospital—Nov. 10, 1962, Garden City Hotel, Garden City, Long Island, N. Y. Write Joseph Cziffer, 318 E. Morton St., Bethlehem, Pa., or Louis Hevesey, Possum Lane, South Norwalk, Conn.

69th Signal Bn.—July 19-21, George Washington Motel (East), Pennsylvania Turnpike and Route 1. Write Herb Heideck, 8113 Terry St., Philadelphia 36, Pa.

165th F.A., Btry. B.—Planning reunion in Chicago, July-August, for men stationed at Dutch Harbor, Attu, Aleutian Islands. Write Mike Orlando, 7 West 144th St., Riverdale 27, Ill.

415th R.R. Tel. Bn.—April 28, Morrison Hotel, Chicago. Write James J. Maher, 3723 S. Rockwell St., Chicago 32, Ill.

503rd Mil. Police Bn., Co. C—Aug. 18-19, Detroit, Mich.—Write Bob Beas, 6441 Grosse Drive, Berea, Ohio, or Archie Smith, 18337 Glastonbury Road, Detroit, 19, Mich.

NAVY

USS Arizona (BB-39)—April 21, Lafayette Hotel, Long Beach, Calif. Write Joe Keehen, 811 Locust Ave., Long Beach 13, Calif.

USS Ashland (LSD-1)—Planning summer, 1962, reunion for men of A, B or M Divisions who served aboard during 1951 to 1955. Write J. R. Pasquale, 228 E. Miami Ave., Logansport, Ind.

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Brand X

Having heard much of the famous "corn likker" of the region, a party of tourists decided to stop at a shack in the Arkansas hills and try to buy some. An old man came to the door. "We heard you had some homemade liquor," they said. "Could we buy some?"

"Yep," said the mountaineer. "I got some. What kind d'ye want?"

"Why, it's called corn likker, isn't it?"

"Yeah, both kinds is corn likker. But which kind d'ye want—courtin' likker or fightin' likker?"

—Quote

Togetherness

Said the minister just before the responsive reading, "Will the lady who always arrives at the 'still waters' while the rest of us are still in the 'green pastures' please wait for us this time?"

—American Mercury

And TV Dinners?

The very-much-married old cronies were talking over their long and painful experiences under the yoke.

"I'm telling you," exclaimed one old codger to the other, "if they'da had electric blankets and sliced bread when I was a young man—well, I never woulda got married in the fust place."

—L & N Magazine

Close Shave

A Cuban defector, landing in Florida, is said to have demanded: "Take me to your barber."

—Lion

Proof In Pudding

There was the wife who complained to her husband, "Look at the old clothes I have to wear; if anyone came to visit they would think I was the cook."

The husband replied, "Well, they'd change their minds if they stayed for dinner."

—Exchange

Shhh!

With the seriousness of youngsters, Mary and Bobby were discussing the forthcoming baptism of their infant sister. "They don't allow you to talk in church," warned Bobby. "Who doesn't?" asked Mary. Answered Bobby: "The hushers."

—Bulletin

Water Safety

An old-timer sat on the river bank, obviously awaiting a nibble, though the fishing season had not officially opened. The game warden stood behind quietly for several minutes.

"Are you the game warden?" the old-timer inquired.

"Yep."

Unruffled the old man began to move the fishing pole from side to side. Finally, he lifted the line out of the water. Pointing to a minnow wriggling on the end, he said: "Just teaching him how to swim."

—Lion

Very Thoughtful

A backwoodsman was leaving home for a trip of several days. His wife wasn't happy about it. "Ike," she complained, "you're goin' away for near on a week and there's not a single stick of wood cut for the stove."

"So!" demanded Ike, logically. "I ain't takin' the axe."

—Post Script



Permanent Party

Two friends who had not seen each other for several years met and after the usual expressions of surprise and pleasure, one of them asked:

"And who are you working for now?"

"Same people, wife and five children."

—Illustrated Weekly of India

Out of the Picture

Whistler came home and found his mother scrubbing the kitchen floor on her hands and knees.

"Why Mother," he exclaimed, "have you gone off your rocker?"

—Successful Farming

Worked Out Fine

A boastful Englishman was showing a Bostonian around London.

"Here are two cannons we captured at Bunker Hill," the Britisher said proudly.

"How nice," said the American, politely. "You have the cannon. We still have the hill."

—Steering Wheel



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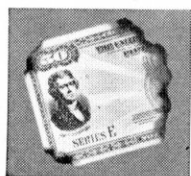
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